

BAY AREA REPORTER

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Smoot Case Botched Due to Bias, Says Panel

Homophobia Blamed for Poor Investigation; Homicide Cops Cited for Neglect of Duty

by Ray O'Loughlin

The Office of Citizens Complaints, the civilian review agency for the San Francisco Police Department, has concluded that homicide inspectors turned in an inadequate investigation into the killing of George Smoot last November because Smoot was gay. In a strongly worded report of its inquiry into the investigation, the OCC stated, "It is without question that the victim's sexual orientation played an important part in the manner in which the case was investigated."

In calling the investigation inadequate, the OCC concluded that "It appears that once the suspect made the allegation that he had been molested by the victim, the inspectors stopped collecting evidence which might have proved the crime was committed and began trying to prove that the suspect had been molested by the victim. Statements made by the inspectors during their interviews with the OCC investigator indicated that they were working with some strong preconceptions relating to the sexual practices and behaviors of homosexual men."

Four homicide inspectors are accused of conduct reflecting discredit on the department be-

cause of the poor investigation—Antonio Casillas, William Kidd, Marvin Dean, and Frank McCoy.

The OCC sustained three of four complaints stemming from the investigation. According to the agency's report, the four inspectors were also guilty of neglect of duty for conducting an inadequate investigation of the killing. Other unnamed officers were criticized for conduct reflecting discredit on the department for loudly laughing while searching Smoot's home.

A fourth allegation that police had improperly seized Smoot's personal diary as part of the investigation was overruled and found by the OCC to be proper for homicide cases.

In its report, the OCC concluded that police investigators "neglected to collect evidence... with the degree of care one would expect of persons of their experience and training." According to the report, neighbors with additional information were not "adequately interviewed," and "physical evidence, particularly from the killer's home, was not collected."

As to the charge that loud laughter was heard from police while inspecting Smoot's home, the OCC concluded that such conduct had occurred and was improper, but that no individual officers could be named in the allegation. Several neighbors

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The rear of Hartford St.

(Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene)

Gay Dems Face Party Struggle

Push for Recognition of Issues As Price for Supporting Dukakis

by Allen White

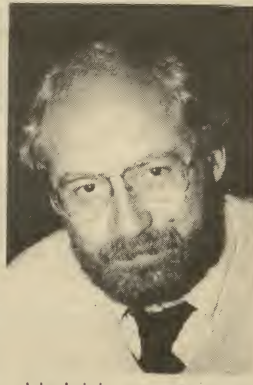
Gay and lesbian delegates going to the Democratic National Convention next week in Atlanta face a struggle for visibility and recognition in their party. But that struggle is mixed with the anticipation of nominating a candidate who will win the White House in November.

Mayor John Laird of Santa Cruz, a gay delegate, said, "This year Paul Kirk has so deliberately crafted a generic convention, rather than an issue- or people-oriented convention, that the issue is, will the convention ratify a generic document and nominate generic candidates."

Albert Lucero, a gay delegate from Berkeley, commented, "It looks like it is going to be a real struggle. At this point, lesbians and gays are not even mentioned in the platform. I would like to think there is going to be some kind of inclusion."

Carole Midgen heads San Francisco's Democratic County Central Committee. She is going to the convention as a Dukakis-appointed delegate and last week was named to the Democratic National Committee. Critical of Kirk, she explained, "Paul Kirk has been saying for years that there would be an abolition of the lesbian/gay caucus. There had been a lot of rumbling about the

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John Laird

(Photo: Rink)

Today

U.S. Senate Votes to Restrict D.C. Human Rights Law: Will Snyder reports the details on page 2.

Lawsuit Filed to Block Dannemeyer: Miranda Kolbe has the story on page 4.

From Sydney With Love: Aussies Send Emissaries From Mardi Gras to S.F. See page 14 for the story.

Park Plan Calls for End to Cruising: Buena Vista Park neighbors say cruising damages plants. See page 15.

I Remember Prague . . . and Pavel: William Francis remembers a nation's brief freedom on page 16.

Oakland Schools Include Gays in Curriculum: Jay Newquist has the story on page 21.

Jerker Finally Makes It to Rhino Stage: David Lamble interviews playwright Robert Chesley on page 26.

Arson Strikes Castro Homes

Four Houses Burned Sunday; Believed Set by Same Person

by Allen White

Arson investigators believe that one person set three fires last Sunday night which caused more than \$300,000 in damage and burned three homes in the Castro. The first fire began at 231 Hartford St., between 19th and 20th streets. But a second fire did the most damage.

The second fire quickly spread through two residential buildings at 172 and 174 Hartford. The Hartford Street fires began shortly after midnight Sunday evening. A third fire began at about 1:25 a.m. at 319 Eureka St.. The buildings at 172 and 174 Hartford sustained the most amount of damage.

"There were flames coming from the dining room window, and they came so fast the windows started breaking, and the flames started going up very, very high," said Carl Andry. Andry was one of the first witnesses to the blaze and is one of the people who called the Fire Department.

Fire equipment arrived from across the city as the fire was upgraded to a three-alarm blaze. 18th Street and 19th Street were both closed eastward from Castro.

Fanned by a cool night wind, the flames dramatically shot into the air. For several minutes it looked like the flames might jump from one building to another.

As the fire burned, several residents of the buildings sat in the street. One man held a teddy bear and, with tears in his eyes, watched as his home was gutted by the blaze.

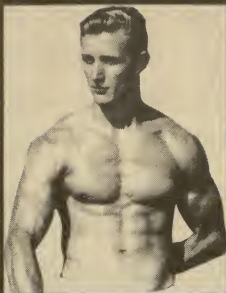
Arson investigators with the San Francisco Fire Department said it was probably one person who set all the blazes. "It looks the same kind of fires," said Al Sylvestri, an arson investigator.

He said it appeared the arsonist set the fire using available material piled up near the buildings. Sylvestri said it was the same pattern in all of the fires set Sunday night.

Spokespersons for the Fire Department urged Castro area

(Continued on page 14)

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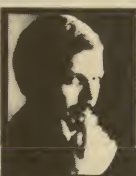
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Senate Votes to Restrict D.C. Human Rights Law

Legislation Allows Bias by Church Schools; California Sen. Wilson Votes Anti-Gay Again

by Will Snyder

Local gay and lesbian legal leaders reacted bitterly to a July 11 U.S. Senate vote approving legislation which could gut Washington DC's human rights ordinance. The amendment to an appropriations bill would allow religious schools in Washington to discriminate against gay and lesbian student organizations. However, the subject of scorn wasn't as much the amendment's sponsor, Sen. William Armstrong, (R-CO), as much as it was Sen Pete Wilson (R-CA), who voted for the amendment. Wilson is involved in a re-election bid this fall against Lt. Gov. Leo McCarthy and gay and lesbian leaders in San Francisco served notice they intend to retaliate against what they termed "homophobic bigotry." The legislation passed by a 58-33 vote.

"We're after him," said an emotional T.J. Anthony of the Judicial project. "Pete Wilson sold the lesbian and gay community down the river with his vote." Anthony went on to say that "Wilson will have a hard time getting elected when lesbians and gay men go to vote in November."

The impetus for Armstrong's legislation came after both federal district and appeals courts in Washington had ruled that Georgetown University, a Catholic institution, had violated the District of Columbia's human rights ordinance by denying equal treatment to gay and lesbian student groups. In a settlement, Georgetown agreed to partial recognition by providing meeting space, a mailbox and the right to apply for student government money. However, the university was not required to give official recognition to gay and lesbian groups, because church officials claimed it would violate church moral teachings.

Critics blasted Armstrong's amendment, saying it endangers the District of Columbia's human rights ordinance and basic home rule.

According to Armstrong's amendment, "It shall not be an unlawful discriminatory practice in the District of Columbia for any educational institution that is affiliated with a religious organization or closely associated with the tenets of a religious organization to deny, restrict, abridge, or condition... the granting of any endorsement, approval, or recognition to any person or persons that are organized for, or engaged in, promoting, encouraging, or condoning any homosexual act, lifestyle, orientation or belief."

Anthony charged that D.C. residents could face a cut off of all federal funds and be "without snow removal, care for the elderly or other similar things" as a result.

He added that he feels the Armstrong Amendment is "purely political. The Republicans are doing this to get at the Democrats involved in close re-election bids. He cited three liberal Democrats, Howard Metzenbaum of Ohio, Donald Riegle of Michigan and Frank Lautenberg of New Jersey. The three Democrats voted against the Amendment.

But Wilson is also up for re-election and Anthony vented his anger against California's junior senator. "This is not the first time that Wilson has let us down. I testified two weeks ago against the nomination of (attorney) Vaughn Walker to a District Court position and Wilson just stood by while all of us from gay and lesbian organizations were subject to the most vicious and McCarthy-istic questioning from conservatives."



Sen. Pete Wilson (Photo: Rink)

Republicans weren't the only targets. Twenty-two Democrats supported the amendment with one of them being Sen. Lloyd Bentsen (D-TX).

As Bay Area Reporter went to press, Wilson's office had not returned calls for comment on the issue.

The irony of Monday's legislative action, according to Anthony, is that Georgetown University didn't encourage the Colorado Republican. "They told him they didn't want any part of this legislation," said Anthony. Georgetown University spokesperson Betty Whittleder confirmed this, telling the Associated Press that the university was not lobbying Armstrong's office.

Board Rejects Plan To Limit Arguments In Voters Handbook

May Raise Fees to Limit Crazies

by Jay Newquist

Free speech carried the day last week when local legislators rejected a proposal to limit ballot proposition arguments in the city's voter information pamphlet. The plan would have repealed a law that now provides unrestricted access to anyone who pays for space in the Voter's Handbook.

The three members of the Rules Committee of the Board of Supervisors voted down the call to limit access to the handbook to only bona fide political groups.

The committee will vote instead next week to amend the existing ordinance to charge for administrative and postage costs for people who pay to print their own opinions in the voter's guide.

The call to drop what some call "the crackpot ordinance" was made by Chief Administrative Officer Rudy Nothenberg and Acting Registrar of Voters Michelle Corwin. They objected to the existing law that allows anyone to print whatever they want whether it is relevant or even coherent.

The city was obliged on a few occasions to go to court at some expense to have offensive or extreme material expunged from the handbook.

In one remark against a housing project measure on the June 7 ballot, a citizen said that anyone who has sex with Mayor Art Agnos should "make him use a condom." The court sided with the city and removed the remark.

Other questionable examples of free speech led Nothenberg and Corwin to have Sup. Carol Ruth Silver of the Rules Committee propose the new ordinance to exclude irrelevant commentary.

Corwin was so miffed by the turnaround of her proposal that she declined to discuss the matter other than to say that it had been defeated.

The tempest in a teapot never reached the boiling point as Sup. Jim Gonzalez, also of the Rules Committee, was leery of any affront to free speech. He said it wasn't right to penalize people who wanted to legitimately use the Voter's Handbook by simply weeding out the zanies.

State Sen. Quentin Kopp, who opposed the new ordinance along with Mayor Agnos, decried the attempt to suppress free discourse and said the wackiness of some voters was part of the fun.

The amended ordinance presented after the negative vote by Sup. Silver would substantially hike costs for space from the existing printing costs to \$50 plus \$1.50 per word.

The new language of the ordinance is being prepared by the City Attorney's Office and is scheduled for completion when the Rules Committee meets July 12. Sup. Nancy Walker is the committee chair.

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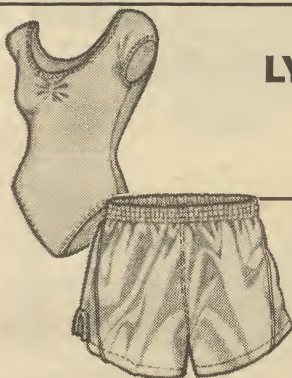
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Lawsuit Filed To Block Dannemeyer

Claims Initiative Not Health Measure, Signatures Improperly Gathered

by Miranda Kolbe

The California Medical Association, the California Nurses Association, the American Civil Liberties Union, and National Gay Rights Advocates have joined together to file a suit challenging U.S. Rep. William Dannemeyer's AIDS initiative, now scheduled for the November California ballot.

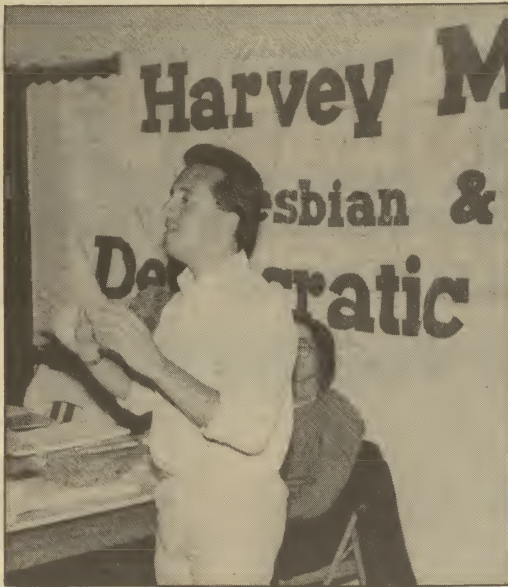
The suit launches a two-pronged attack on the initiative. The first charges that the initiative violates the single-subject rule which specifies that California ballot propositions must hold to a single topic. It argues that the Dannemeyer initiative, with its provisions regarding insurance, protective clothing, mandatory testing of people charged with various crimes, and longer sentences for those who test HIV-positive, does not hold to its stated objective as a "public health measure."

"The initiative is being sold as

a public health measure, which it is not," said Matt Coles, staff attorney for the ACLU. Laurens White, president of the CMA, described the initiative as "bad public health and bad medicine. It's also bad human rights."

NGRA attorney Benjamin Schatz described the initiative as "a LaRouche in sheep's clothing." He feared the initiative would discourage people from donating blood and participating in studies of the disease and believes the measure would increase the spread of AIDS.

Attorneys for the suit will



Ben Schatz explained the Dannemeyer initiative at a meeting of the Milk Club recently. (Photo: Rink)

argue that allowing insurance companies to test for HIV infection, for example, is not a public health measure, but, rather, legis-

lation regarding the financial status of insurance companies. The provision which allows for HIV testing of people charged with various crimes is also not a public health measure, but, rather, punitive legislation, according to Coles.

"The only connection between AIDS and this part of the initiative is that people who have the virus which causes it get special punishment. That isn't public health, that's public retribution," he said.

Lawyers bringing the suit are looking hopefully at parallels drawn by a recent case in Sacramento, where a judge decided to

strike a no-fault insurance initiative off the ballot because it included a provision dealing with campaign spending.

The second prong of the suit claims that the attorney general's summation of the initiative used in signature-gathering to place it on the ballot was misleading because it did not state that anonymous testing centers would be banned, should the initiative pass.

At a press conference on the day the suit was announced, George Cummings of Brobeck, Phleger and Harrison stated that the 100-word description was "woefully incomplete." He said this problem should not be laid at the feet of the attorney general, who wrote the summary. "[He] failed to do so because he was given much too much to summarize."

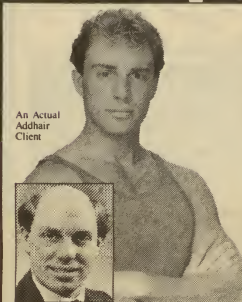
The suit is expected to be heard within the next month. If successful, the Dannemeyer initiative would not qualify for the ballot again until the next general election in 1990.

When asked about the initiative's possible success should the lawsuit fail, Ben Schatz responded, "When any initiative gets before the voters, you're crazy if you don't take it seriously."

Schatz commented that California voters are eager to take any action on AIDS. When polls are conducted asking voters their opinion on any action regarding AIDS, about 60 percent of the people will respond yes, regardless of what that action is.

White commented that 30 percent of the people in California think one can get AIDS by donating blood. With that kind of fear and misinformation, he suggested, it is possible people will vote for the Dannemeyer initiative. ●

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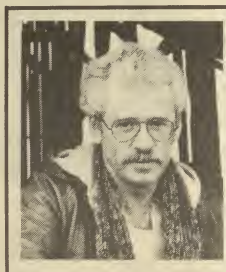
June 23, 1934 - June 29, 1988

An eloquent moment of silent tribute and reflection at the Teddy Bears' Picnic: Burleigh Sutton has died.

Born Frank Joseph Sutton in Clinton, Iowa, he was almost immediately nicknamed Burleigh, after Pittsburgh Pirates pitcher Burleigh Grimes. He graduated from the University of Iowa and joined the Iowa bar in 1959. He served as a Lieutenant in the Navy's Judge Advocate Corps before settling in San Francisco in 1962. He entered investment banking as senior trust officer for Security Pacific National Bank, going on to become vice-president and trust officer for Liberty National Bank and, later, executive vice president and senior trust officer for Chartered Bank of London. Burleigh was last employed as senior vice-president and managing associate for FCA Asset Management.

A devoted and generous champion of progressive causes, Mr. Sutton served on the board of the Human Rights Foundation and was a key figure, in a multitude of capacities, for the Gay Freedom Day Marching Band. The Gay Games and the Pride Foundation were among the many regular recipients of his philanthropy. He was profiled in the 1979 CBS documentary *Gay Power, Gay Politics* and was on the Board of Trustees for the San Francisco Foundation from 1970 through 1980.

He was a man of great character, a figure of style, flair, panache. A personality of mood, temper and fire, but a gentle man, a peace-loving man. He was a lover of beauty as well as prin-



ciple. A gregarious, irreverent spirit of grins and giggles, yet a feeling man, a serious man, a private man.

Beloved Burleigh, you devoted much of your time, money and passion to leaving the world a better place. With any luck, there will be find new bearers for the torches you held so high, but, still, for many of us, the path will seem rockier and less bright now that you are gone. We love and miss you, but as long as there are dreams to dream, truths to be spoken, justice to be sought, and smiles that can light the day, we will have the privilege of being reminded of the lovely ways in which you touched our lives.

Burleigh died June 29 with DuMont Howard, his lover of eight years, by his side. He is also survived by his two sisters, Karlen Fellows and Barbara Price, and a loving family of friends. Charitable donations in his memory may be made to Act Up, SANE/San Francisco Nuclear Freeze or the Shanti Project. A memorial service will be held at the Stern Grove Club House at 7:30 p.m. on July 23. For details, call 885-1355. ●

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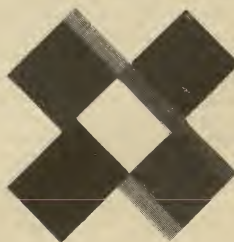
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EDITORIAL & OPINION

No Time For On-The-Job Training

At long last we are in the twilight of the Reagan regime, sometimes called a revolution. The feebleness of the man and his policies grows more apparent each day. But Reagan still has six months to rule—or whatever it is he's been doing in the White House for eight years. He's still got chances to do more damage. And it's not just the stars that tell us so.

One of the areas in which Reagan and his cohorts most want to do more damage is the federal judiciary. Judicial appointments are one of the most visible powers a president has. Since the court system in the U.S. is the final—some say the only—arbiter of disputes in this society, its actions impact the lives of all citizens. And since federal judges get their jobs for life, a court appointment can carry on a presidential program for years after that president is out of office.

Reagan knows this and is trying to stack the federal judiciary with the most conservative, even if barely qualified people. Some of his nominations have been criticized as totally unqualified. It seems that the ticket to being named judge by Reagan is the same as that to being appointed to a White House post or commission—you need only to be a right-wing ideologue to qualify. The Reagan legacy will be a host of conservatives who can be relied upon to carry on the so-called Reagan revolution in court decisions.

Part of the "revolution" has been an assault on civil rights. The Reagan regime has distinguished itself by literally turning the U.S. Civil Rights Commission into an anti-rights agency. His judicial appointments have furthered that purpose by naming judges largely unsympathetic to minority rights, be those minorities gays, lesbians, blacks, women or children.

The nomination of Vaughn Walker is a case in point. Walker has been nominated to the Northern California District Court bench. His proponents, chiefly Sen. Pete Wilson, have portrayed Walker as qualified and fair. But his record raises many questions about his fitness to be a judge.

Walker's chief claim to fame is that he has worked at a big-name

corporate law firm for most of his career and defended the mighty U.S. Olympics Committee against the Gay Games. He's proven himself very much to be one of the boys, a fit candidate to carry on the goals of the Ayatollah Reagan.

Walker's vigorous pursuit of the USOC's case went well over the line of client advocacy. It became nothing short of vengeful, grudge-bearing. Not satisfied with having won the case, Walker and the USOC slapped a lien on the home of Dr. Tom Waddell for payment of legal fees. It may have been legal; it certainly was mean-spirited. Walker and his clients even pursued the lien until after Waddell's death from AIDS. Perhaps out of shame, they then backed off.

But that's just one strike against Vaughn Walker. The problem isn't that he represented an unpopular client. Ethical questions arise from his conduct in that case. Other questions stem from the pattern of Walker's legal career. He frankly doesn't have much to suggest he would make a good federal district judge. Cronyism should not be the basis for judicial appointment.

Coming from the high-powered world of corporate law, Walker's practice has been confined to that specialty area. His experience has been narrow and has poorly equipped him to suddenly deal with the gamut of legal issues that come before federal judges.

He hasn't even given much of his talents to pro bono work as specified in the American Bar Association Code of Professional Responsibility.

He barely knows his way around a courtroom, having argued cases before juries only twice in his career and litigated other cases before judges only six times. Walker appears to be a board room lawyer and he should be kept there. Federal courts are already backlogged and slow to act partly because Reagan has filled positions with corporate attorneys. A federal judgeship is not for on-the-job training.

As a matter of courtesy to the new presidential administration beginning next January, whether that president is George Bush or Michael Dukakis, Congress should simply freeze all appointments, especially judgeships. Let the new president begin his term with as clean a slate as possible. Congress has done this in the past. In fact, the precedent was set by Republicans, who blocked a Democrat president's appointments. Congress should honor this tradition as a matter of course.

We urge Sen. Alan Cranston to do all he can to halt any further stacking of the federal courts. Our courts should not become ideological clubs.

OPINION

Shanti Board Doing Own Inquiry

by Carol Tocher, chair
for the Board of Directors, Shanti Project

Recently, Shanti Project and its executive director have been targets of a great deal of criticism. Many of those who criticize remain anonymous. Some of the press have condemned Shanti Project and the actions of its executive director with little consideration for the facts. Much of what has been reported has been inaccurate. Many statements have been misleading; others containing some element of truth have been taken out of context.

We feel it would be tragic if people with AIDS and their loved ones were denied access to Shanti services because of the negative press coverage currently surrounding the Project.

Shanti Project is cooperating with the Human Rights Commission (HRC) to determine the validity of these charges. Shanti Project remains committed to this process and the correction of anything which is found deficient. The formal investigation began on March 30 and will end with the final report in early August.

In early April, statements were raised questioning the integrity of Shanti Project's fiscal management of restricted grant contributions. The board of directors responded to these allegations by meeting with the independent auditing firm of Van Keulen and Lumer. The audit confirmed that there was no basis of truth in these allegations.

There have also been some confusing and erroneous reports about the financial stability of Shanti Project. Despite numerous budget cuts in other health care areas, the Health Commission renewed Shanti Project's contract for fiscal year 1988-89 at its current 1987-88 level of \$1.2 million. The Health Commission approved funding for the first three months of the coming fiscal year and will act on the remainder of this funding upon completion of the HRC report. The board of directors assures you that Shanti Project is in a sound financial position entering fiscal year 1988-89.

Currently there is a rumor that Shanti Project is experiencing a drop in volunteerism. This is not true. The more than 700 Shanti Project volunteers continue to provide more hours to clients than was originally projected.

We are, however, concerned about the long-term impact of negative

press on our volunteers, and we continue to be concerned about the community's ability to generate enough volunteers to meet future demand.

There have also been inaccurate statements about the make-up of our staff, clients and board. In our 14 year history, Shanti Project has grown from a staff of one to a staff of 67. Of our current employees, 45 percent are women and 30 percent represent ethnic minorities. Women and ethnic minorities currently utilize all Shanti services in significant numbers.

Other concerns have centered around Shanti's board. Shanti Project is governed by a Board of Directors comprised of 13 members who serve in a volunteer capacity for a three-year term. It is the responsibility of the Board to set policy and ensure the financial integrity of the Project. Each director is aware of his/her fiduciary responsibility to protect the assets of Shanti Project.

The board is responsible for all programs within the Project and delegates responsibility to the Executive Director who, in turn, implements their directives and is accountable to the board of directors. The board of directors evaluates the executive director annually. The executive director attends board meetings at the invitation of the board and has no voting privileges.

Because of the serious nature of the allegations brought against the Project and the executive director, the board of directors has formed its own independent review committee. This review process is occurring simultaneously during the HRC investigation. Issues that will be reviewed by the board of directors will be charges of sexual harassment, nepotism, discrimination and internal systems and communications.

The chair of this committee is Douglas Holloway, senior vice-president and chief credit examiner with Wells Fargo and Company. Other members are Gayling Gee R.N., director of outpatient nursing at San Francisco General Hospital; John Fulton, regional sales director for CALPAC, Inc.; Lynn Clark, law firm accountant, former board member of Junior League; Reggie Williams, person with ARC, associate chief technology, Department of Radiology, UCSF, and chair of the Board of Directors of Black and White Men Together, SF.

As the board of directors of Shanti Project, we appreciate the support of all our volunteers, clients and friends. We acknowledge how difficult this period is for all of us. We want to assure the San Francisco community of our dedication to quality direct services for people with AIDS and their loved ones. Shanti Project needs your continued support, now, more than ever.

Second in Senate

★ Several months ago it was reported that the first openly gay person had just been elected to the student senate of the University of California at Berkeley. This is a positive step, to be sure; however, not entirely accurate.

Steven Wilford was the first openly gay person elected to that body in 1970. In 1973, Paul Zimmerman, another openly gay candidate, came within ten votes of being the second. Within the past months, we have lost both of these fine people to AIDS.

As we celebrate the election of the second openly gay person to the student senate, let us remember those who came before and hope we see the third elected before another 18 years pass.

Leland Traiman
Berkeley

Nicaragua Stuff

★ While I take second place to no one in my attempt to become the politically incorrect poster girl, I feel mildly compelled to clarify the remarks attributed to me in Mary Richards' June 30 article on the parade, particularly those pertaining to the "Nicaragua stuff."

I am quoted as saying, "There were a smaller number of liberation contingents and the Nicaragua stuff, but more people involved with AIDS work, and that felt really good."

Some people have understandably interpreted these remarks to mean that I supported a shift away from political activity. This is not so. What "felt really good" was the large number of AIDS activists, not the smaller number of liberation contingents.

In fact, my conversation with Ms. Richards continued along the line of how concerned I had been in the past over such a lack of political emphasis, but that, for various reasons which we discussed for several minutes, I was reevaluating my dissatisfaction with the political apathy this year. Naturally, since this part of the conversation was vague, convoluted, and not just a little boring, Ms. Richards wisely chose to leave it out.

Although I am no Brian Wilson, I have lost some share of shoe leather on the anti-U.S. intervention trail. In honor of those few blisters, I would hate to see my tiny measure of lesbian leftist political capital squandered on a remark taken out of context.

Sharon Ullman
Oakland

No Honor

★ In reply to Eileen Myer's letter of 30 June: First, Ms. Myers did not participate in the Women's Motorcycle Contingent this year, either as a rider or passenger. She was not present while the bike committee met for hours to decide how to organize the bikes in a fair and impartial way. She was not present while one woman sabotaged our efforts to ride as an honorable contingent in a rightfully proud parade.

Ms. Myers should be accused of perpetuating this "dyke drama" she writes of. In order for there to be a "war zone," there must be two sides in a conflict. In this case there is only one, which brings me to my next point.

I would like to lodge a protest against Leather and Blues Roadtribe.

The contingent left the schoolyard where we were lined up in the order that we preregistered. When it came time for L&B to fall into procession, they refused to move. The monitor then signalled the next row to move, at which point L&B's leader moved forward to block the exit, preventing the rest of the contingent from riding onto the parade route.

Not seeing any more bikes coming, the marching band started down Market Street. Then the rest of the bikes appeared, causing the band to stop playing and move back to the sidelines to let the rest of our contingent by.

It's only one group of women, mainly Leather and Blues Roadtribe, who are displaying childish, manipulative behavior. They have no honor.

Melster
Bike Committee Vice President
Cogent Warriors M.C.

We Need You

★ We are people with AIDS who are emotional support volunteers for Shanti Project. We would like to take this opportunity to respond to the criticism that Shanti is currently undergoing. We acknowledge that there are problems which need to be corrected, and we feel they will be. But we are concerned about the effect the criticism might have on the organization's ability to continue to provide services.

Shanti Project is an organization that existed to help terminally ill people before AIDS. With very few

people and little resources, people like Jim Geary, Bobbi Campbell, and others started the first support groups for people with AIDS. As the epidemic grew, so did Shanti. And as with any organization that has grown due to need, Shanti experienced growing pains. Today Shanti is an internationally recognized organization that has become the model for others.

The point that we would like to make is this: Let's support this organization that is vital to our community. For there really is only one group of people who will suffer, should Shanti discontinue—people with AIDS and their loved ones. If Shanti were to go under because of the current criticism being leveled against it, some people would lose jobs, and some would lose prestige.

But we, who have AIDS, would lose much more. Shanti provides what no other organization does. Emotional and practical support volunteers give many tens of thousands of hours of their time to help support people with AIDS and their loved ones. Shanti provides residences to people with AIDS who are in need. There is the van service which picks people up and takes them to their doctor appointments. Shanti has a recreational program which helps people with AIDS to be able to socialize and have fun together—an important need due to the isolation which many people experience when diagnosed with AIDS.

There has been some reference in the press that we were coerced by Shanti into writing this letter. There is no truth in that whatsoever. This letter was written because we care about what happens to Shanti. We agree that any problems that exist should be corrected. We hope that people will continue to donate money and volunteer for Shanti.

We need you.

Marty Hill
Rick Volland
Paul Carey
Andree Walton
Marcus White

Jay M. Feinstein
Christos Joannides
Paul Francis
Cody Vurgason
William J. Nielsen
San Francisco

Acid Tongue

★ As a regular theatergoer for over 23 years, I feel compelled to take offense at the review by John Karr of the recently closed production of *Annie Get Your Gun*.

I found the show, and particularly, Donna McKechnie, a real delight, as did the other three in my party.

Although the set may not have been the best ever, stop to consider that the show was brought in for a limited run and the producers are trying to establish a summer musical tradition at the Geary Theatre. What a wonderful idea. Let's support them and not tear them down!

Of all the professional productions of *Annie Get Your Gun* that I personally have seen, Donna McKechnie was the best.

Too bad the acid-tongue remarks of John Karr will tarnish the memory of a delightful evening in the theater.

I urge all in our community to support this theater in any way possible.

Ray D. Workman
Greenbrae

Most Serious Dancer

★ I ran out to buy this book after reading the article in the B.A.R. (June 23). It is a *glimpse* of what happened at that time, with one huge, glaring omission. No book of San Francisco dance history of the '70s is remotely complete without the mention of Tim Rivers, the true "I-Beam DJ." Tim made this place famous from 1977-79.

He was also the DJ for the truly legendary Stars party which is mentioned in the book, but without one mention of Tim's name. Incredible! A party is only as good as its DJ, believe me. Tim was also responsible for the success of the Mindshaft (1975-76) and the also-legendary Bones (1977), which is now, ironically enough, a straight bar called Rockin' Robin.

Even Bobby Viteretti acknowledges Tim as the "other" great DJ. (And not just locally—Atlantic Records used to fly Tim to New York to play parties there!) The Troc crowd *never* materialized until after the I-Beam had shut its doors at 2 a.m.

There is simply no way that David Diebold could have overlooked this. The people he interviews are people who were part of the Trocadero crowd, but before the Troc there was, and still is, the I-Beam. And the I-Beam would not have lasted without Tim—when he left, that whole crowd left.

Half a book is better than none, but this is a serious omission. If Diebold wants the other half of the book, let him ask me. Who better to ask about party times than the *most* serious of dancers?

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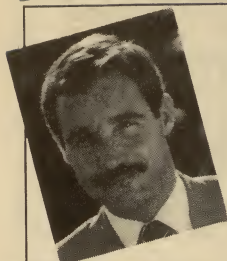
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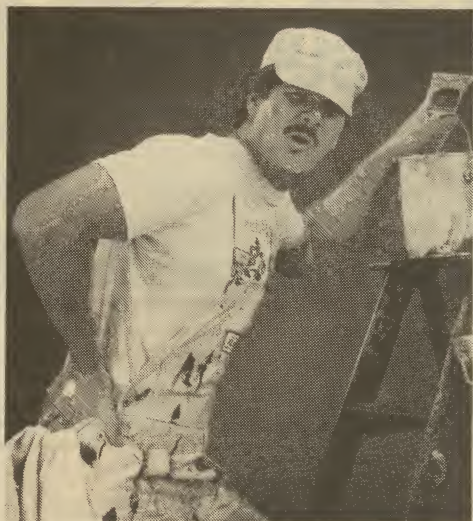
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BACK ATTACK?



When my boyfriend called and said, "Stop by tonight and we'll really paint the town," I assumed great things lay in store. Right? Wrong. When he said 'paint the town' he meant it literally. First we painted his apartment—then he decided to switch colors! By morning I was having a "BACK ATTACK."

The first order of business was a visit to Cathedral Hill Chiropractic where they diagnosed and corrected my problem. Now I feel much better—especially knowing that work injuries are covered 100% by Worker's Comp!

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LETTERS

Smokescreen

★ Wayne Friday is in no position to condemn others for the loss of a lesbian/gay member from the Police Commission.

He lost that privilege when he worked long and hard to elect someone for mayor (John Molinari, remember him?) who, during and since that election, has removed Harry Britt's Gay Rights Ordinance from the USS Missouri agreement and put the anti-gay Olympics resolution on the ballot.

These two acts have done more to attack gay rights than the absence of a gay police commissioner.

By the way, we've not heard a peep of protest about Molinari's attacks on our community by Mr. Friday. Perhaps this small-minded sniping of the gay members of the Commission on Commissions is a smoke-screen.

Mr. Friday should look at his own failings in the political arena and attack our real enemies, or people might rightfully begin to suspect that Mr. Friday is just another loser, criticizing from the outside in order to justify his own poor choice for mayor.

Dennis Seely
San Francisco

Quality at Fife's

★ Good news for a change.

Fife's at the Russian River celebrated its tenth birthday this July 4. I was fortunate enough to make reservations in advance for this event. The men were wall-to-wall around the pool during the day, and the campground couldn't have taken one more tent. From the appearance of particular cabins and tents, some others planned ahead for the holiday weekend. Most memorable were the Polynesian cabin and the "Never-Never Land" campsite.

The annual fireworks, originated at the river many years ago by Fife's, were magnificent over the tops of the redwood trees. My dinner in the Fife's dining room was gourmet quality, thanks to their new chef.

All this is possible because one man, Peter A. Pender, had a dream ten years ago to provide a quality resort for gay men and women. A place he could proudly own and everyone could enjoy.

We almost lost Fife's last year, when Peter became sick and needed to move to San Francisco for medical reasons. He had no plans to open this season and wanted to sell it all. Thank God it didn't happen. Peter, I am glad you are better. It was wonderful to see you July 4 at your beautiful resort. Thank you for making all these things possible for all my brothers and sisters for the past ten years.

I have spent many weekends of my life at Fife's. It has been a place to meet wonderful men and women and make long-term friendships. Over the years, three great general managers come to mind: Kenner Foote, Michael Vayssie, and now Eric Pariser. The other staff have been great, in the office, the bars, the restaurant, housekeeping, gardeners, and others.

To all B.A.R. readers, I encourage you to support the remaining gay businesses and write some meaningful, positive notes to the owners and management. The truth is there is not very much incentive to keep a gay business running, especially when your health is down, like Peter's. I hope some others will use this B.A.R. space to report some positive words.

Don Hanson
Monterey

Legitimizes Violence

The following was sent to Amy McComb, General Manager, KRONTV:

★ As you are aware, the Victim Services Advisory Committee for the Department of Public Health has informed KRONTV of our grave concerns regarding your decision to air *The Morton Downey Jr. Show*. In order to express our concerns, we wrote a letter to your program director, Dave Wilson, on June 8. This letter outlined our contention that the continuous and unrelenting racist, homophobic, and sexist diatribes exhibited on the Downey show constitute a public health hazard.

In answer to our letter, Mr. Wilson met with our representatives on June 17. Mr. Wilson listened to our concerns and expressed that he had and would edit the Downey show for offensive materials.

We informed Mr. Wilson that, in spite of editing procedures by his staff, many of the Downey segments contained materials which denigrated women, gay and lesbian persons, and ethnic minorities. Mr. Wilson was given a text containing narratives of several of the shows as examples. We concluded the meeting with an agreement to meet at a later date, with a promise that Mr. Wilson would ensure that he would monitor future segments of the show with care.

It would appear, based on several of the segments which have appeared on KRONTV since our meeting, that Mr. Wilson has failed in his promise to effectively monitor the Downey show. We conclude that

either Mr. Wilson has not educated his staff as to proper monitoring of programming which may be in violation of Section 12-A of the San Francisco Administrative Code, which prohibits activity fostering intergroup tension, or that he holds the Department of Public Health's Victim Services Advisory Committee in disesteem.

This conclusion is based on several of the shows which have aired as of late. As an example, on July 3 the following comment was made by a guest who was asked by Downey if he were a "gay-basher"— "Number one, it depends on what you define the term 'basher.' If anyone who objects to the term, for instance, 'gay,' I don't think it should be called gay. I don't think there is anything gay about it, because the ranks of the gays are being decimated, as you know. One of my listeners came up with a much better idea. Call them 'SADs,' which means 'Sexual AIDS Distributors.'"

This comment is not only offensive, it deliberately spreads false information about a segment of our population and victimizes persons who are either suffering from a devastating disease or are friends or families of those who have AIDS. This comment, put alongside the term "gay-basher," without any doubt legitimizes violence upon persons who are perceived to be gay or to have a life-threatening disease.

We believe that to air this material is in violation of FCC standards which discourage broadcasting of misinformation and reckless maliciousness which impedes public debate. We also believe that, based on our earlier meeting with the Human Rights Commission, this type of programming is in violation of the San Francisco Administrative Code. We contend that this issue is of interest to political clubs, as well as other public health agencies such as the San Francisco AIDS Foundation and the Shanti Project.

Our desire is, and has been in the past, to assist KRONTV in providing its viewing audience with programming that is accurate, fair, within the public interest, and financially rewarding to you. We do not desire hostility, nor do we wish to aid in a community mobilization against KRONTV. We hope to assist KRONTV in preventing a public relations fiasco.

Finally, we are deeply appreciative of KRONTV and its assistance with the Victim Services Advisory Committee during our presentations during Victim's Rights Week. We are confident that we will continue to enjoy our longstanding relationship.

Randy Schell, Chair
Ad Hoc Hate Crimes Sub-Committee
Pina Tobin, Chair
Victim Service Advisory Committee

Disruptive

★ This was my first year to participate in the San Francisco Gay Pride Parade by riding on the back of my girlfriend's motorcycle. It was a wonderful sight to see hundreds of women leading the parade on their bikes. Unfortunately, the flow of the group was disrupted and nearly caused an accident, due to one woman's desire to turn what was to be a parade of unity into her personal power play.

A number of women put a great deal of their time and energy into the organization and registration of the Dykes on Bikes. The bikes were lined up in a schoolyard in the order that they preregistered. Parade monitors informed us that the procession of the bikes was disrupted when the leader of the Leather and Blues Roadtribe blocked the exit from the schoolyard, preventing a unified group along the parade route.

As there was a long break after the first group of motorcycles passed, a marching band was signaled to enter the parade. A near-accident risking many people's well-being was created when the final group of bikes were released by the L&B leader.

This type of childish, manipulative behavior is not needed in our community, and certainly is inappropriate in a nationally televised parade of gay unity.

In my personal opinion, the organizers of next year's parade should seriously consider not allowing the person or persons involved in this disruption to participate. An apology to those whose hard work was spoiled, let alone those whose safety was placed in jeopardy, should be expected at the very least.

Susan Rudin
San Francisco

Olexy

★ You know you're getting old when the guys giving out the "fraternity boy" party flyers at the Metro station gives one to everybody but you.

John-Michael Olexy
San Francisco

LETTERS

Where Do We Step?

★ In response to Dr. Jane Anne Leyland (July 7), I'd like to suggest that she stop worrying about focus and raise her sights a little. I don't agree with her, but that doesn't mean she should be excluded from our parade.

I would call her attention to the article on page 17 of the same issue, headlined "Gay Groups Want Inclusion in March." It's about our demand for inclusion in the August 27 civil rights march on Washington (celebrating the 25th anniversary of the march led by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.—the first march I ever took part in, even though it wasn't "my" battle). Obviously, we are having to fight for inclusion because some black leaders want, as does Dr. Leyland in San Francisco, to confine the demonstration to a narrow focus—"our" issues, not "their" issues. To build walls, not bridges.

To me, what makes our parades so much fun, as well as representative of our lesbian and gay communities, is their diversity. Where does it say "lesbian/gay interests" are limited to matters directly related to our sexuality? A nuclear holocaust will not discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation, and a world war triggered by U.S. interference in another country's affairs will likewise affect us all. Should we only be concerned about the purity of lesbian/gay air and water?

The parade is a place for all lesbians and gay men to participate, if they choose, with the group to which they feel the strongest affinity. As soon as we start discriminating, where do we stop?

NAMBLA's an easy target. I don't agree with them (and neither does my teenage boyfriend), and they're not good for our image; so let's get rid of them. The same goes for drag queens and leathermen/women. If we all wear business suits, we'll present a better image to help overcome the "negativism in the non-gay community" Dr. Leyland is worried about.

Non-gays who already support us may do so from a distance. That's what the sidewalks are for.

Republicans and Christians are minogities in the lesbian/gay community—and they're not having much luck in lobbying on our behalf with Reagan/Bush or God—so let them stay home. We don't want our parade tainted by commercialism, so let's keep out all for-profit businesses, be they bars and discos or condom manufacturers.

There are separatists of both genders who would be more comfortable in a monosexual parade, so let's have one for lesbians and another for gay men.

Perhaps most importantly, we've been trying for years to get the message across that AIDS is not a "gay disease." It won't help our case if we let PWAs and AIDS service organizations participate in a narrowly focused lesbian/gay event.

I could go on, but I think I've given Dr. Leyland enough ideas to work with. If she eliminates the rest of the undesirables, she can have a nice walk down Market Street next June while the other 274,999 of us find other ways to amuse ourselves.

Steve Warren
San Francisco

Improper Nouns

The following was sent to Henry Bosley Woolf, G&C Merriam Company, Springfield, MA.

★ The preface to the 1974 paperback Merriam Webster Dictionary extends your belief that "the user will find in it 'infinite riches in a little room.'" I do not find it to be so. I want to explain why I reject the "riches" you offer as the "ultimate word reference for schools, universities, libraries, courts of law, the National Spelling Bee, and the U.S. Government Printing Office."

Your 57,000 entries (claimed in the preface) exclude a number of well-known racial/ethnic epithets. I am unable to locate definitions for any of the following: nigger, spic, wop, hymie, chink, and dyke.

I did find a listing that demeans women in general, "broad." However, you have carefully identified this term as slang in your definition.

On the other hand, you have included five derogatory epithets for "homosexual." I find the following listings: fag, faggot, fairy, homo, and queer.

The definition offered for each of these is "homosexual." The terms are not even defined as slang, a nicety you apply to "broad."

Your bigotry is appalling. By perpetrating slanderous "definitions" to suit your own prejudice, you destroy your own supposed objectivity.

Do you believe "fag" is a standard, nonderogatory noun describing a gay man? Is "queer"?

Do you believe slanderous epithets for gay people should be listed in dictionaries as proper nouns?

David B. Hurlbert
San Francisco

Down With Downey

★ Your June 30 article on protests against the odious Morton Downey Jr. Show quotes a KRON-TV spokeswoman who asserts, "This is the only city in the country in which controversy is taking place."

We beg to differ! In New York, the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) has been battling the Downey show and its flagship station, WOR-TV, ever since an October 22 episode in which Downey talked about "queers" who engage in "perverted behavior" and called for quarantining of all people with AIDS. He topped off his performance by mincing around the stage with a limp wrist.

In a protest to the station (subsequently published in the *PWA Newslines*), Dr. Mathilde Krim wrote, "Mr. Downey was despicable. His ignorance of the disease was total. Downey used the word 'buddy' as an insult (toward a Gay Men's Health Crisis volunteer), with an expression of hatred on his face that made me shudder."

Our efforts were galvanized when, on Dec. 9, Downey slapped gay activist Andy Humm during the taping of his show—an act of anti-gay violence for which neither Downey nor WOR has ever apologized. GLAAD launched a community education campaign, and the station was besieged with calls and letters of outrage. We also contacted every member of the board of directors of MCA Inc., WOR's parent company (which owns the show in partnership with Quantum Media).

Unfortunately, Downey remains on the air in New York. But our community's efforts have led major advertisers to avoid the show, which has substantially reduced WOR's ad revenues. The battle continues. We salute the efforts of activists in San Francisco and elsewhere who believe that "hate TV" has no place on the public airwaves.

Stephen H. Miller
Gay & Lesbian Alliance
Against Defamation
New York City

Mud

★ It was with amusement that I read Mr. Marcus' column and discovered him lambasting us. For the record, 32 men came from all over the country to attend our "Mud Olympics" party on May 21. More people came this year than ever before, largely due to articles about us that were published in your newspaper. Men came from as far away as Boston, Chicago, Texas, and Virginia.

Two charges were leveled at us by Mr. Marcus, one accusing us of fraud. I would like to answer both of them:

(1) I volunteered a portion of the proceeds to our local AIDS group, Face to Face, and that debt has been paid. Yeah, okay, I'm slow at paying them, but Club Mud is certainly not a fraudulent organization. We're starting our second year, and we will be around for many more years to come.

If Mr. Marcus would bother to read his free copy of our quarterly publication, he would realize that the primary reason for the party was to play in the mud, and not necessarily to raise money for Face to Face.

In your Jan. 14 issue, the article about our party states 10 percent will be donated to Face to Face. That's a voluntary contribution, not a fundraiser.

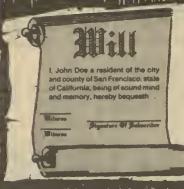
Our second anniversary party is scheduled for Aug. 27, and I would like to donate money from that party, too. I would like to give it to Face to Face, but I can't. Rick Dean, a new boss of that group, has stated that he doesn't want their name associated with any group that allows sex to happen, be it safe sex or not. Club Mud is primarily a nonsexual mud wrestling group, but our members are human, and sex does happen. We encourage safe sex only. I am not going to outlaw sex altogether; I am not another Anita Bryant or Jerry Falwell. If there's an AIDS group out there that wants some free money, I'm all ears. It may take a whole damn month to get a check, but, by golly, you'll get it.

(2) The only person who was forced to do anything against his will, and obviously the source of your news, is the head honcho of Palm Drive Video, who is upset because I won't let him videotape or film at our parties for free. We have only one rule: all people must participate and get muddy; we don't want some clean person snapping pictures of us while we play, it only detracts from the fun.

I have many letters from our past parties, thanking me for a good time. No one was forced to do anything against their will, except him; he was offered to leave, and did not. And for the record, he has yet to give a penny to Club Mud or Face to Face. Let's see him volunteer a portion of his book or videotape sales!

Interested men can contact Club Mud at P.O. Box 277, Rio Nido, CA 95471.

Bro. Duke
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Dukakis Names Bentsen as Veep

After weeks of playing a political guessing game, Democratic presidential nominee **Michael Dukakis** announced this week that he has finally chosen a running mate. With the national convention opening within days, Dukakis decided that he had carried his Mondale-like search for a veep candidate far enough and announced that he would nominate Texas Sen. **Lloyd Bentsen** to carry the Democratic banner with him against Republican **George Bush** in November.

Bentsen, a millionaire Texas oilman who is serving his third term in the U.S. Senate, is given the task of helping the Democrats carry Texas, with its large electoral vote, against Bush, who is also from the Lone Star State and who is currently favored to win there.

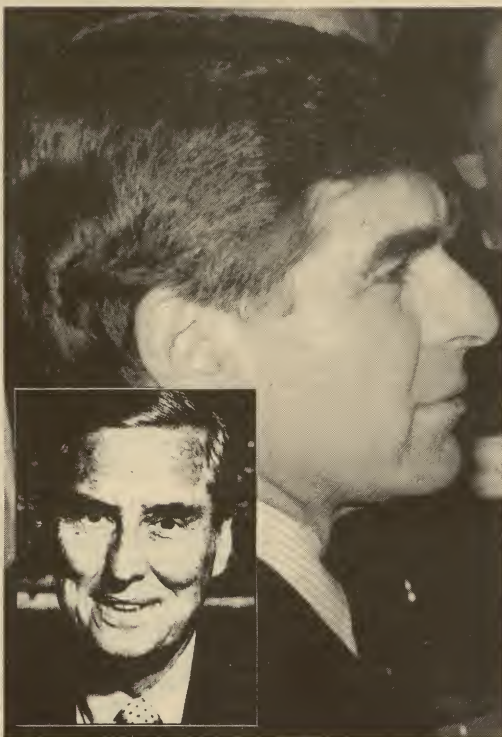
Bentsen would also bring a more conservative flavor to the Democratic Party ticket.

Reaction was swift from some Democrats, particularly those supporting **Jesse Jackson**. Only last week, Jackson was complaining aloud that minorities and women were being "locked out" of the vice presidential process. "Why has no Hispanic person, woman, a Jew, a black, or labor person been in that loop of consideration?" Jackson asked during a speech to the convention of the League of United Latin American Citizens.

Many saw the question as Jackson's way of applying continued pressure on Dukakis to keep his own name in consideration, but Jackson's supporters now must be content to go to Atlanta, listen to their man give one of his famous fire-and-brimstone speeches on one given night of the four-day confab, steal the show for a few hours, and then go home to work for the Dukakis Democratic ticket.

Sure, Jesse and company will make a few expected opposition noises in Atlanta, but it will be Michael Dukakis and Lloyd Bentsen for the Dems.

A promising experimental AIDS drug that has been cited as a victim of delays in the federal AIDS drug-testing program is to be tested in a federally sponsored trial that received approval this week. U.S. Food and Drug Administration officials confirmed that the FDA approved a six-month trial of oral dextran sulfate, a drug that has been found to prevent the AIDS virus from infecting and killing immune system cells, on 60 patients at medical centers in San Francisco and Boston.



Michael Dukakis and Sen. Lloyd Bentsen (inset).

(Photo of Dukakis: Scott Martin)

Clint Reilly will run Sen. **Milton Marks'** reelection campaign. Meanwhile, word from Sacramento has it that the Senate Republican Caucus is considering making the Marks Senate seat a high-profile target, with Republican **Carol Marshall** as their candidate.

Overheard: **Dianne Feinstein** to a longtime gay friend, "Can you imagine what would have happened had I tried to remove a gay from the Police Commission?" She's absolutely right. The Milk Club would have been marching on City Hall, and one of those talking the loudest to downplay Mayor **Art Agnos'** move would have been at the head of the pack.

Meanwhile, Sup. **Harry Britt** continues to take heat on the whole affair, with the Sentinel editorially calling the supe "one of the mayor's most vocal apologists."

How's that? Attorney **Melvin Belli's** new book, *Divorcing*, due out in August.

Four years ago this week, N.Y. Rep. **Geraldine Ferraro** made it into the history books by becoming the first woman nominated by a major party to run for

U.S. vice president. But last week a harried Ferraro told syndicated columnist **Ellen Goodman** that, in looking back, "If God were to show me what happened, I'd say, 'Hey, do me a favor and give it to Dianne.'"

Assemblywoman **Jackie Speier** and husband **Steve Sierra** are expecting the birth of their first child any day, but the workaholic legislator spends every day on the job.

Overheard at City Hall: "How do you think **Hongisto** and **Nelder**, early supporters of Art, must feel, reading in the Chron that **Harry Britt** [a former **John Molinari** supporter] is the supervisor who is really in favor with Agnos' administration?" What the hell, they can't all make it into the rolodex, can they, Harry?

Among the \$472 million that Gov. **George Deukmejian** chopped out of the budget last week was the \$28 million the lawmakers added to the budget for wide-ranging AIDS research, education, and treatment programs aimed at curbing the epidemic in California. Included in the cuts were elimination of

(Continued on page 20)

Molinari Won't Run for Re-election in Fall

by Wayne Friday

Sup. **John Molinari** announced this week that he will retire from the Board of Supervisors, after 17 years on the city's legislative body. He said he will not seek re-election this November.

Molinari, first elected in 1971, is the senior member on the Board of Supervisors, and served as its president five times. Prior to his election to the board, Molinari served four years on the city Civil Service Commission.

In an interview with the Bay Area Reporter Monday, Molinari said that he felt it was time "to take a rest" from electoral politics and "pursue other things."

A heavy favorite to succeed Mayor **Dianne Feinstein** at the start of last year's mayoral campaign, Molinari was badly defeated by then-Assemblymember **Art Agnos** in the December election, losing by a 70-30 percent vote.

Hinting that politics had taken its toll on the veteran supervisor, Molinari commented to B.A.R. that perhaps "I came off the mat once too often," adding that he was leaving City Hall "with mixed feelings, but no bitterness" over his mayoral defeat.

Molinari is the general manager of the San Francisco office of **Lawyers Surety Corp.**, a Milwaukee-based insurance firm.

Friends of the likable supervisor say that, though he seldom speaks of it, his loss to Agnos in the mayoral race last year wore heavily on Molinari and his family. One source close to the supervisor commented that "Jack worked hard, preparing himself to be mayor, and the election

results were, to him, a rejection of years of public service. He simply felt that it was time to quit. He doesn't need to be hit over the head twice."

Sup. Molinari himself was in a very good, if reflective mood. During a luncheon meeting with this writer Monday, he said only that "it was time to move on to other things."

John Molinari has served his city well. He has been a friend for years to the gay and lesbian community, often speaking up for issues important to our community. Both friends and his political foes will miss his leadership at City Hall. Few political figures were as qualified to be mayor of San Francisco. But as Molinari himself said, "The voters chose someone else, and in politics the voters are the boss—just as it should be."

The Molinari announcement this week set off a free-for-all among would-be supervisors who will seek to replace him. Early front-runners for the supervisorial seat include **Angela Alioto**, **Bruce Lilienthal**, **Mark Buell**, **Jane Winslow** and **Terrence Hallinan**.



John Molinari (l.) with Tom Hsieh during Molinari's mayoral campaign.

Life at the Closet Door



A Cry of Despair

I'm depressed—mainly because my boyfriend left for Chicago this morning after a brief visit, and I don't know when I'm going to see him again or what I'm going to do about this long-distance relationship. But I can't write about this now. I don't think my boyfriend likes the publicity, despite his assurances that I can write about whatever I please.

Besides, regardless of how he feels, I promised myself that I would not write about my personal life as much in the future as I have in the past. I realize I have gotten away with murder for years, but readers can only take so much before they tune out and cease to identify.

In any case, there are other reasons for my depression. When I arrived at the restaurant where I work today, only a few hours after taking my boyfriend to the airport, I found out that the head chef died the night before. Although he was not a close personal friend, he was a good man and a hard worker. I respected him a great deal and will miss his steady guidance and fair dealing. His death put my own paltry concerns into proper perspective, of course—but it sure didn't make me feel any better about the present or the future.

It seems as if I am surrounded by dissolution and death these days. Last week I saw in the obituary section of the B.A.R. the name of someone I met at the Gay Games in 1986. The week before that, Leonard Matlovich's obituary appeared, as well as someone's I used to admire who was a Barbary Coast Clogger. Earlier in the month, I found the picture of a gym friend in the space reserved for deaths, as well as that of another co-worker at the restaurant. I had hoped that after five years of obituaries, the grim toll would lessen. But the numbers continue to climb, as relentless and ruthless as ever.

In the mail last week, I received a package which brought all this even closer to home. A reader sent me a T-shirt that had belonged to a mutual friend of ours before he died of AIDS in 1985. The reader's lover had also died of AIDS recently, and he was in the process of cleaning out his things and reorganizing his life. He sent me the T-shirt because he thought I would appreciate it.

I was touched but saddened by the gift. This friend and I were part of a tight-knit circle of friends who used to party together our first few years in San Francisco. All are dead now, except myself. I remember when my doctor at the U.C. Med Center suggested five years ago that, within a few years, every gay man of my generation in San Francisco could very well succumb to the disease. At the time, I considered the prediction alarmist and extreme. I think so no longer.

Shanti Needs Support Volunteers

Shanti Project is in critical need of San Francisco residents to come forward and be trained to become emotional support volunteers to assist people with AIDS and their loved ones.

Space is still available in the next training scheduled for two consecutive weekends, July 22,

What else am I to think when, one by one, my friends test positive, develop health problems, sicken, and die? Last week yet another friend told me that his T-cell count has sunk to below 100 and his doctors have suggested AZT and pentamidine as a countermeasure. I have heard this sort of news so often lately that I hardly react to it anymore. As Andrew Holleran says, "The more you live through this, the less august it seems." Yet it is still horrible, and from time to time I cry out in despair, unable to bear the situation any longer.

Sometimes I wonder why, of all my friends, I am one of the few who has survived. But then I look at my own T-cell count, and I wonder no longer. As I wrote to the reader who sent me the T-shirt, "It is probably only a matter of time before I get AIDS, as well." I do not know if I really believe this. What I do know is that I have felt a hell of a lot better in my life than I do now—and this is beginning to make me awfully nervous.

I also know that on the wall of my bathroom there hangs a picture of a group of my friends rafting down the American River. Five of the eight people in the picture are gay. The two in the front left of the picture are now dead. When I look at that picture, I draw mental X's over the faces of the deceased, and I wonder which of the three of us will be the next to go. It is a modern, parlor-game version of Agatha Christie's *Ten Little Indians*—but not nearly as much fun to play.

I probably shouldn't be writing all this. I know no one wants to hear it. Most people in the community are sick to death of AIDS. If I must write about the plague, they tell me, I should at least be upbeat and optimistic. Well, I try. And usually I succeed. I am well aware that the image I most often project (one which I deliberately cultivate) is that of a naive Pollyanna who is determined to view the world through rose-colored lenses. But sometimes I just can't pretend any longer that all is as it should be. Today, for instance, life seems a dismal affair at best, and I'm depressed.

The question is, what is to be done about it? Sometimes I just want to escape, to quit my job, and to travel. But that's hardly a realistic option. Instead, I should follow my boyfriend's advice to think about it as little as possible and to get through each day as painlessly and as graciously as I can. In time, this too will pass, he says. A few days down the road, all will seem right again—or at least bearable. And even if my friends don't stop dying of AIDS, at least my boyfriend may come back to me—which would give me one less reason to be depressed. Considering how I feel right now, that's far better than nothing. ●

23, 24 and July 29, 30, 31.

Interested individuals should fill out an application form and go through a brief in-person interview prior to the beginning of the training.

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'Cats Who Care' a Rousing Success

by Dennis McMillan

Monday night's "Cats Who Care" benefit at Bimbo's for AIDS Emergency Fund (AEF) and the East Bay Assistance Fund (EBAF) exemplified the spirit of love. The house was packed with an audience of unanimous auction-bidders, including a gentleman who paid \$4,000 for a handmade, rainbow quilt. And the stage was filled with the talented, caring cast of *Cats*.

Organized by Donna Lee Marshall (Grizabella in the musical), the cabaret benefit was the eighth in a series that follows the road company, dedicated to the *Cats* choreographer who died of AIDS, T. Michael Reed. In fact, the most loving number in the show, entitled "Tom," was written and sung by Robin, a cast member who wanted to express her emotions concerning the tragic loss of Reed (and all those who have succumbed to the deadly disease). Her poignant words asked, "Why did you have to go? If we'd loved you more, could we love you back again?"

The three-hour showcase of singing, dancing, and acting cats featured ballads and show tunes from all the big musicals, including the show-stopping "Memory," sung by Grizabella in cat costume. The medley from *Phantom of the Opera* was another first-rate singing performance, as well as first-class costuming and makeup (right down to the phantom's disfigured face and mask). And the provocative lady in the black lace lingerie, singing "Call From the Vatican," kept spread-



Donna Lee Marshall, here as Grizabella in *Cats*, is the driving force behind *Cats Who Care*. (Photo: M. Swone)

ing her legs as lesbians in the audience fainted dead away.

The auction portion was long and very rewarding, as well. Introduced by AEF co-chair Danny Williams, the celebrity guest auctioneers—Sharon McNight with her zany zingers; singer Samantha Samuels in an incredibly comedic mood; Louise Molinari with all her flash; the San Francisco Examiner's Rob Morse with his wry wit; and the anything-but-BOR-R-ING star of *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* Joanne Worley with her *Laugh-In*-style humor—made a usually tedious function seem part of the comic entertainment.

The items were purchased with extremely generous bids, the highlight of the auction being

when Michael Darling's handmade, rainbow-and-hearts quilt gradually escalating its bid from hundreds to thousands of dollars, climaxing at \$4,000 and a house standing ovation for the final bidder, Bob Hawes.

Darling, who is an Ohio resident, said in a letter that he put in 130 hours of work on the quilt and \$65 worth of materials. It was his way of contributing to the fight against AIDS. "I hope it can sell for \$500," he wrote.

The entire cast appeared for a vibrant finale, singing "Man in the Mirror": "If you want to make the world a better place, look at yourself and change." These caring cats certainly are doing their fair share. ●

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Publisher Fired for Refusing Gay Ad

DAYTON, OH—The publisher of the Dayton Daily News was fired when he refused to run a classified ad by two gay organizations. Despite protests from Christian groups, Cox Newspapers Pres. David Easterly has said that he will not back down on firing Dennis Shere June 8.

Shere said that his "Christian convictions" forced him to reject the ads. To publish them, he said, would give the appearance that the newspaper was "promoting unacceptable behavior."

But Easterly was quoted as saying, "Personal feelings, religious or otherwise, cannot be allowed to override our obligation to treat people fairly. As newspaper people, it's our job to defend freedom of expression for all people, even when we do not condone their lifestyle or philosophy."

Jim McCarthy of Serenity, an eight-month-old gay rights organization in Dayton, hailed the move as a breakthrough for the Dayton gay community. "We set out to accomplish something, and we have. It's a landmark for the Dayton community. Never before has the community pulled together and fought back against any form of discrimination."

Right-wing fundamentalist groups immediately staged a protest outside the paper's offices and have threatened a boycott. The newspaper said it has received hundreds of subscription cancellations in protest of Shere's firing.

The controversy began when the Dayton Lesbian and Gay Center tried to place a three-line classified ad for a series of seminars called "Keeping Healthy in Difficult Times." The ad was rejected at "publisher's discretion."

Serenity then submitted another ad for itself, which also was rejected. The group then organized a picket line of two dozen people on May 18.

McCarthy went to Atlanta, where Cox Newspapers is headquartered, with videotapes of media coverage of the protest and dispute at the Daily News.

McCarthy praised the response he got from Cox. "I'm glad they treated us the way we kept asking to be treated all along, and that is professionally," he said.

—The Advocate

Quarantine Now Law in Florida

TALLAHASSEE, FL—The Florida Legislature has passed, and Gov. Bob Martinez has signed into law, a comprehensive bill dealing with AIDS, part of which calls for the quarantine of AIDS carriers charged with spreading the disease.

Martinez was quoted as saying that the measure is "the first comprehensive piece of legislation that deals with all the elements of AIDS." Along with the quarantine provision, the law covers education, patient care, and research, according to press reports.

"It's a very broad law that I believe will set the standard for the nation," said Martinez.

The law calls for quarantine of up to 120 days for HIV carriers who are found to engage in unsafe sexual practices after they have been warned not to.

According to Martinez, "non-compliant" carriers will not be sent to jail, but to "an environment where professional aid can assist, and hopefully we'll have some behavior modification so that won't be a continuing problem."

The law also bans most forms of discrimination on the basis of HIV infection and prohibits the sale and advertising of home AIDS test kits.

—UPI

said Jonathon Lubin, a Brown University math professor who heads the Rhode Island Alliance for Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights (RIALGCR). Gays were also told Senate majority leadership was for the bill, but none spoke for it on the floor.

One reason the bill got as far as it did is that the Roman Catholic bishop in this 65 percent Catholic state did not take a stand. His strong opposition to a Providence gay rights bill several years ago is credited with its defeat.

Sponsor Rep. Linda Kushner (D-Providence) said she planned to reintroduce the bill next year. It first included job and housing protection, but was watered down in order to better its chances, Kushner said.

The bill was helped by the chair of the House Judiciary Committee, who backers thought would oppose it. But he advised gays on organizing an effective hearing.

"We followed his directions, and I think he was very impressed," said Lubin. "I think we changed his mind." The bill was voted out of committee after it was watered down. No one testified against it at the hearing.

Gays met less opposition in the Senate Judiciary Committee, where many bill opponents turned out for a hearing. But it was voted out by an 8-to-6 vote despite apparent opposition from the chair.

The bill got further than in the past. A bill which only covered jobs was first introduced in 1984, only to die in committee. The next year, it made it out of a Senate committee, but did not come up for a floor vote.

—John Ward

Rights Bill Killed In Rhode Island

PROVIDENCE—The little-publicized Rhode Island gay rights bill died a quiet death in early June when the state legislature recessed for the year. The bill, which covered public accommodations and credit, slid through the heavily Democratic-dominated House in a 64-to-16 vote, but met defeat in the Democratic-dominated Senate in a 29-to-17 vote.

Now only state employees in Rhode Island are protected from anti-gay discrimination, under an executive order issued by Republican Gov. Edward DiPrete.

Bill backers speculate that a behind-the-scenes fix may have foiled the bill in the 50-member Senate, in which Democrats outnumber Republicans three to one.

Fueling that speculation is the fact that the Senate minority leader voted for the bill in committee, but against it on the floor,

'No Vacancies' If You're Gay

PHILADELPHIA—If you're going to Wildwood, New Jersey, you won't find any room at the inn.

Two motels there have said it is their policy not to rent rooms to two men, although they will rent a room to two women or to an unmarried male/female couple.

A third motel said that it would let two men stay in one room, but would not permit loud parties. Said one clerk, "We can't rent to two guys. We only have a double bed in the room."

—Philadelphia Gay News

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Gay-Baiting Forces Candidate to Quit

NEW YORK CITY—A Civil Court judge dropped out of the Bronx district attorney's race after a 48-hour candidacy last month after reporters asked if she were gay. Peggy Bernheim, who is single and who is said to have shared living quarters with another woman for 25 years, has withheld comment. But Bronx Democratic boss George Friedman said that Bernheim decided to withdraw after two reporters quizzed her.

Sources said an anonymous caller, who identified himself as a friend of embattled Bronx D.A. Paul Gentile, against whom Bernheim would have run in the primary, told the New York Post about Bernheim. The Gentile campaign has denied spreading the story, as has the campaign of candidate Paul Foglia, a Bronx assistant D.A.

Bernheim, called an outstanding jurist with an impeccable reputation by Newsday, was believed to be the favorite in the race because she won the Bronx Democratic endorsement.

There has been little concern among New York gay politicians about the questioning of Bernheim, said key city activist Andy Humm. "The way I feel about closeted public officials is that they don't deserve our protection," said Humm. "The Bronx is a mess anyway, and she faded very quickly."



Teachers Vote Support For Gay/Lesbian Rights

Overtly Gay Caucus Established by Union; Homophobe Boomed and Hissed at Convention

by Dennis McMillan

The American Federation of Teachers, AFL-CIO, voted at its biannual national convention July 1-6 to authorize the establishment of a gay and lesbian union caucus. The conference, this year held in San Francisco, passed a gay rights resolution and set up a special lesbian and gay hospitality booth. Both received overwhelming support from attending AFT delegate members, according to caucus members.

According to coordinator Jim Lee, there has never before been a caucus so overtly named as gay and lesbian. Previously, the group has been more covertly entitled the Human Rights Caucus. It was voted upon practically four-to-one in favor by the executive council of the AFT.

The purpose of the caucus is to have a voice in the AFT and to let gay issues and rights be better known among the leadership and members.

In San Francisco, the union has its own gay and lesbian committee which has been active since October.

Last Tuesday afternoon, a result of the conference was a compromised gay rights resolution passed by the AFT and its general assembly. The resolution came out of a 72-page booklet, *Proposed Convention Resolutions: 1988*, in which a compromise was reached between #36 "Labor and Educational Equity for Sexual Minorities"

and #37 "Sexual Orientation."

John Michaelson, co-editor of the BANGLE (Bay Area Network of Gay and Lesbian Educators) newsletter, was happy the resolution was passed, although he saw the compromised version as "a rather watered-down first step that does not entail everything we would like to have included."

Newly elected chairperson of the caucus, Dr. Paul Thomas of the Philadelphia Federation of Teachers (AFT local 3), was both surprised by and pleased with the overall supportive atmosphere surrounding gay issues at the conference, from leadership (including AFT president Al Shanker) on down.

There was only one homophobic response during the entire six-day conference. According to Thomas, after a very moving speech had been given concerning gays, a delegate from New York referred to homosexuality as sick and deviant behavior. "Even the straight people responded

with boos and hisses," Thomas commented.

He immediately stood up to the New York teacher shouting, "Point of information: where did you get your information?"

Michaelson called the results of this caucus an important national step for gay educators, a way to organize and come further out of the closet. "It's a chance for people to see gay people as professionals, in their lives and in the lives of their kids, too," he said.

Michaelson sees the task ahead for the caucus as the raising of consciousness on gay and lesbian issues across the country, including civil rights and all facets of curriculum supporting gay concerns.

Simultaneous with the AFT conference, the other big teachers' union, National Education Association, passed a similar resolution in New Orleans with the help of its caucus headed by Jeff Worden. ●

U.S. Court Upholds Arkansas Students

Prohibits University From Denying Funds

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit ruled June 23 that the University of Arkansas cannot discriminate against its gay student organization by not awarding student activities funds.

"This was a classic case of suppression of speech because of viewpoint," said Nan D. Hunter of the American Civil Liberties Union, who argued the case for the students in the Court of Appeals. "Lesbian and gay students were singled out for infringement of expressive activities because of the content of their speech."

"This decision is an important extension of the rule that government cannot censor speech by selective denial of funding," she said. The case marks the first time that a public university has been ordered to extend student activities funds, in addition to official recognition, on a non-discriminatory basis to a campus gay rights group.

The case grew out of a request by the university's gay rights group for \$165 to present two workshops on prejudice and to show an award-winning documentary film, *Before Stonewall*, about the history and development of the gay rights movement in the United States. The request was voted down by the student senate, and the university administration refused to overturn that decision.

The Court of Appeals found that the evidence in the case "leaves no reasonable doubt that funds were denied because of disagreement with GLSA's speech." The judges noted that the gay students group met all of the objective criteria for funding and was the only group which met the

criteria but did not receive funds. Moreover, some groups which did not meet all the criteria were funded, and there was still money left over in the budget.

"Government may not discriminate against people because it dislikes their ideas," wrote the court, "not even when the ideas include advocating that certain conduct now criminal be legalized."

The student senate discussion of the funding request in the fall of 1985 revealed extraordinary prejudice and ignorance about homosexuality. Some students said that giving money to the gay group would be "against God." Many argued that such funding would support homosexuality, which students believed to be "illegal" because of Arkansas' law prohibiting acts of sodomy.

When a representative of the gay group spoke, senate members expressed surprise at how "normal" she looked. The chair of the finance committee testified that sentiment in the senate was "totally against" the gay group "when they came in." ●

Dear Ken,

Thanks for worrying about me. Now that I'm over the shock of learning that I'm HIV positive, I'm actually doing OK. I was really scared at first, until I found a medical group that specializes in the management of HIV infection. Don't get me wrong-- I still wake up each morning wondering if every ache and pain is related to AIDS. But having my immune system periodically monitored helps put my mind at ease. That way if I need it, I can make sure to get special treatment that could save my life.

I feel like I have so much more control over my future now, and I'm doing everything I can to stay healthy. It's nice to know that if I experience some change in my condition, my medical group will be there to help. It's great to have a place to go to get answers to all the questions I have. I wish you would visit San Francisco to talk to the people at ViRx too. Besides, I miss you.

Jeff

ViRx is a healthcare organization committed to making a decisive contribution to the fight against AIDS. We provide the most up-to-date information on the treatment of HIV infection and related diseases, and programs of ongoing clinical and laboratory monitoring for HIV seropositives. ViRx healthcare fees and laboratory costs are generally reimbursable through your private insurance. Give us a call at 415-474-2233. VIRX MEDICAL GROUP INC.

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From Sydney With Love

Aussies Send Emissaries From Gay Mardi Gras to S.F. Parade

by Mary Richards

Shortly before the Gay Freedom Day Parade, I received a letter from Sydney, Australia. The letter was from my friend Arthur Dicks, designer and artistic director with a large theater company in Sydney. The photo which accompanied it depicted Arthur and his friend, Peter Minns, in what I can only term unusual garb. They were the winners for best costume at the 1988 Sydney Gay Mardi Gras held in February. Their prize was airfare to San Francisco plus \$1,000 in spending money, and they were on their way to attend our Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day Parade.

In Arthur's words, they won for a clever double dress which they dubbed "the First Fleeters," the name given to the first arrivals from England in Australia in 1788. Arthur and Peter were joined at the waist like Siamese twins. They remained joined together for over eight hours and walked in heels from the Art Gallery to the Royal Showground, a distance of some four miles.

"The two dresses were also named after two famous ships on that historic journey, H.M.S. Serious (Sirius) and H.M.S. Supply. The wigs contain models of the ships in the manner of the period."

I was impressed. Not only by the fact that these two gentlemen had managed to wear heels for eight hours (something I can hardly do these days), but—I admit it—by the ships they wore on their heads.

San Francisco was about to receive representatives from the Sydney Gay Mardi Gras in full regalia. And receive them we did, first at the Friday night press conference before the parade. David Wilkins is party coordinator for the Mardi Gras committee, and we were able to chat for a few moments in the crowded Stud bar after the VIPs spoke.

David said that two committee members and eight association members from the Mardi Gras were in San Francisco to take part in the parade. The Mardi



The parade contingent from Sydney, Australia.

(Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene)

Gras had given them funds to video the event and arrange for printing and banners. But each person had paid his or her airfare.

"The main reason we're here," David explained, "apart from having a good time, is that this is the largest gay march in the world. Every year the Americans come down to our Mardi Gras and say, 'This is fabulous, fantastic—why don't you come up and say hello to us and see what we're doing?'"

"The number of Americans at this year's Mardi Gras was staggering!" he claimed. "I was standing outside one of our local bars, and it was too crowded to get in, and all I could hear was American accents. I thought, 'This is great!'"

After we spoke, David presented a special gift from Australia to the board of directors of the Lesbian and Gay Freedom Day parade. It was a beautifully carved model of the Sydney Opera House joined with a triangle, the symbol of gay liberation.

Meeting David and the committee members brought back all my wonderful memories of their Gay Mardi Gras, which is a rival for anything that New Orleans, Rio, or Venice have to offer.

Their grand parade of illuminated floats rolls through the center of Sydney accompanied by a giant fireworks display. Music blares from gay bars and restaurants along each block bordering the route, while costumed revelers dance on balconies as the Mardi Gras flows by. The streets are lined with 150,000 people, to see what has become the largest parade in Australia. At the Showgrounds afterwards, people party until dawn.

This year, I'm told, there were 60 floats and marching groups, but it wasn't always that way. It started out ten years ago, winding its way through the back streets of town, hardly noticed and not terribly impressive.

The Gay Mardi Gras committee has endured setbacks, both social and monetary, since it was incorporated. In 1985, because of the AIDS crisis, pressure was brought by local politicians and the medical profession to disband the event. The move was successfully resisted.

Now the parade and three-week cultural festival, of which it is a part, bring thousands of visitors to Sydney in February, representing an estimated \$5.2 million



Winners of the costume contest, Peter Minns and Arthur Dicks, at Sydney's Gay Mardi Gras.

(Photo: D. Gubert)

to the local economy. It is the only self-funding, major community festival in Australia.

The growth of the Mardi Gras is in direct proportion to the strength of the lesbian and gay community in Sydney—and is a tribute to a culture which continues to blend with the city and still remain its own unique form of celebration.

In 1988 the Mardi Gras festival ran from February 5 to 28, and the parade and party were held on February 27. The Sydney Gay Sports Association organized

and coordinated many of the sporting events in the festival, such as basketball, squash, volleyball, tennis, bowling, and swimming. Social clubs promoted picnics and harbor cruises, celebrities such as Robin Tyler joined the celebration, and a gay film festival was shown.

Much of the funding for these events is received from the promotion of the Sleaze Ball, which is held in October. This costume disco/dance party has a collective fantasy theme and some of the more bizarre costumes the country has ever seen.

Arson

(Continued from page 1)

residents to become increasingly watchful of their property.

They said there are three specific guidelines which should be followed by all homeowners. All loose debris should be cleared from around the house. Arsonists in these fires commonly use material which is easy to find.

They urge homeowners to lock the doors around their houses. It was pointed out that many of the homes in the area have side en-

trances. It is through one of these entrances that the arsonist gained entrance to the buildings.

"Be vigilant," said one member of the Fire Department. Fire Department officials encourage residents to call 911 if they see anyone loitering near their home at night or detect any unusual behavior.

The Fire Department said that these fires resemble others set in another arson wave in 1986. Yet, they say that they do not believe there is any reason to relate the fires to anti-gay sentiment.

Park Plan Calls For End to Cruising

Neighbors Complain of Park Sex, Say Cruising Damages Plants

by Dennis McMillan

At the fifth in a series of Buena Vista Park community meetings, 25 members of the neighborhood met with representatives from the city's Recreation and Parks Department and Department of Public Works to discuss the 71-page Buena Vista Park Master Plan. The ongoing park renovation has been criticized as a plan to remove gays from the park rather than a plan to restore damaged park land.

Critics charge that the rash of pruning and brush-thinning in recent months, is in response to complaints that gay men use the hilltop park for sex.

The master plan introduction states, "The goal of the Buena Vista Park Master Plan is to develop a feasible, long-range improvement and maintenance plan that will ensure the preservation of the natural character of the park and make the park attractive to a wide variety of users."

But on page 5, the report states, "Several individuals expressed concern over the park's undesirable public image resulting from the use of the park by transients and members of the gay community engaging in public sexual activity."

OCC

(Continued from page 1)

testified that they heard police laughing in the victim's house shortly after the killing.

Activist Bill Paul, who brought the complaint to the OCC on behalf of the Stonewall, Alice B. Toklas, and Harvey Milk Democratic Clubs, said he was pleased with the OCC findings.

"The investigation showed that the police failed to collect and preserve relevant testimony and physical evidence regarding both the killing and the killer's alibi," said Paul.

He called the report a breakthrough for the OCC. "It's unheard of to take four senior officers and publicly disgrace them," he said. He called the police involved in the Smoot case "arrogant."

John Crew, an ACLU attorney who has long been involved in police review issues, said the charges represented "very serious acts of misconduct by high-ranking officers."

Said Crew, "Not only did they do a bad job, but they did it because [Smoot] was a gay man."

He said it was the first time he'd ever heard of such a complaint being sustained. "This is exactly what the OCC process was designed to do," said Crew.

The case now goes to Chief Frank Jordan and the Police Commission for disciplinary action.

"The question now is: How will the chief discipline them?" said Crew. "We're going to be watching."

He hoped that Mayor Art Agnos would use the case to demonstrate support for the OCC. "This is also a decisive test for the survival of the OCC as an independent agency defending our civil rights," said Paul. "The new Police Commission will be crucial in deciding whether to give OCC the full support it deserves. Mayor Agnos should be able to exert some influence with his newly appointed commissioners on behalf of OCC."

The report refers to soil erosion due to foot traffic in popular cruising areas. In fact, critics of the plan brought up at the first community meeting in May 1986 that "the issue of erosion was simply 'window dressing' for the larger concern over the 'gay presence' in the park."

At another meeting the issue came up again. "The park is currently threatening because of the visibility of gay sex and use by transients," stated one concerned neighbor.

As a result, the master plan now suggests, "the gay community should be incorporated into this plan of action for restoration, improvement and maintenance."

In a survey of 74 questionnaires returned to the Recreation and Parks Department, six made comments that gay use and sex in the park limited use of the area for other residents.



The "Summit" (previously the "Grassy Knoll") of Buena Vista Park on a Sunday afternoon. (Photo: R. Pruzan)

Deborah Learner, park planner and project director from the Recreation and Park Department, opened the meeting with general comments concerning improvements. At this meeting, there was no actual mention of gay presence in the park, although soil erosion was mentioned by many in attendance.

Learner then introduced Shannon Maloney, project manager of the Department of Public Works, who elaborated on the amended master plan. In addition to refurbishing the children's playground area and repairing the existing restroom facilities and tennis courts, plans call for turning the presently unused parking lot at the top of the park into a grassy summit with informal seating and a drinking fountain. The area is to be surrounded by

barrier plants to discourage transients from sleeping under or frequenting the bushes there.

Also under consideration is a method to stop soil erosion with a temporary fencing of the Outlook area for up to three years. This would facilitate the planting of seeds to reforest the eroded places. It would also stop the cruising. One suggestion was made to also plant poison oak as a discouragement to foot traffic in the area.

There was also talk of lighting the park at night "as a way to eliminate or reduce hiding places," although this idea may be too costly. It was discouraged by Rec and Park because "it conveys a false sense of security."

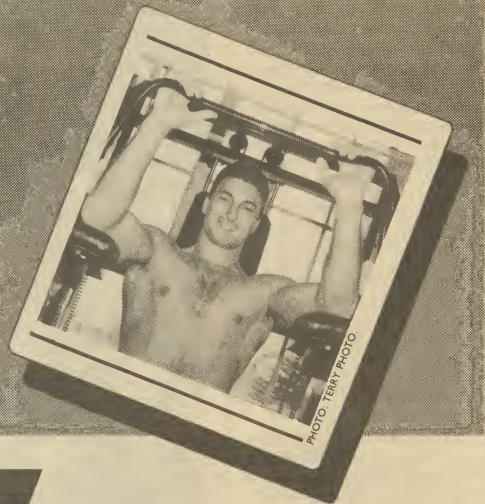
A true sense of security has been suggested in the form of increased police patrol. Officer

Cannon, of the San Francisco Police Department, reported that there were 75 arrests made in the park last year. He said the police are "addressing specific problems very intensely with the intention of deterring illicit sexual behavior in the park."

Speaking in opposition, several participants in the planning committee voiced their opinions that recent police activity in the park has constituted police harassment.

The funding for this master plan for the third largest park in San Francisco comes in part from a county open space acquisition and renovation fund, a local bond issue, a general fund, a California state grant, private monetary contributions and volunteer community efforts. In total, the project is requesting \$4 million. ●

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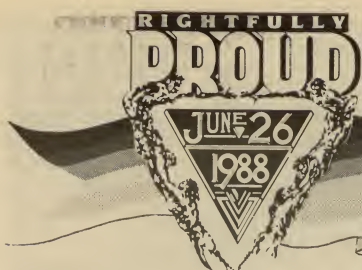
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I Remember Prague . . . and Pavel

An American Remembers a Nation's Brief Freedom And a Young Czech Who Remained Loyal to His Family

by William Francis

It has been almost 20 years since that day in August. Today the memories range from vivid in many details, to obscured, to gone forever. But those first days of the Warsaw Pact invasion of Czechoslovakia were not conducive to taking notes.

21 Aug. 1968: Prague, capital of Czechoslovakia: Strips of light sliced between the louvres, building a bridge from the particles in the air, from the window to the foot of my bed. It was to be another bright day, I thought. It was 9:30 a.m., but where was Pavel?

His shift as night engineer for Československa Rozhlas (Radio Prague) was from 11 p.m. until 7:30 a.m. He planned to stop at home before coming to wake me up around 8:30 a.m.

This was to be our last day together. He was an hour late, but it allowed me a few private moments to bask alone in the magic I had felt since my first day in this magical city known as Prague.

The train to Vienna left East Berlin around 8 a.m., stopped briefly in Dresden, and then went on to deliver me to Prague's Woodrow Wilson railway station around 2 p.m. on a hazy mid-August afternoon. I was going to Prague on a holiday.

American tourists were rare in Czechoslovakia. They were discouraged by some dark fear that if they went to Soviet bloc nations, they never would be heard from again. Only the most adventurous would risk their lives or the accusations of unpatriotic activities. Those making the leap into the unknown were exotic harbingers of news which was unavailable to curious Czechs.

There had been others who had come from the West, of course. Allen Ginsberg, the early beatnik, had lived in Prague. But once news of his gay "lecherous debauchery" had raised even the eyebrows of liberals and the western press, Ginsberg was quietly informed that his visa would not be renewed. He was unceremoniously directed to the nearest border by Czech authorities.

That was some time ago, however. As far as I knew, the only two American tourists in Prague were Shirley Temple Black and me. We were good will ambassadors on different missions.

Housing would not be easy. The city was full of tourists from other Eastern Bloc nations. While a clerk at the Cedok tourist bureau worked out housing for me, I took my first look at the city. It was love at first sight.

Prague embraced me and sent my mind reeling as I acquainted myself with the staggering beauty of its 1,000 years of architectural splendor. The parade of handsome, smiling faces telegraphed warmth and friendliness and competed for my attention. I was too occupied to think about being alone and homeless behind the Iron Curtain.

Later on I found out that I would not be homeless that evening. When I returned to Cedok, my clerk had found accomoda-



A bird's-eye view of Neruda Street.

tions for me in a place called the Villa Klamovka.

Villa Klamovka, a short tram ride from the center of town, sits on a knoll surrounded by vast expanses of sloping lawns, densely shaded by trees secreting it from passersby below. Once a private estate, it had been converted into a sports complex at the time when "Socialist Realism" had been integrated into Czechoslovakia.

The former grand ballroom and public reception areas of the villa now housed a basketball court adjacent to a restaurant, which was used as a gathering place for visiting athletes. An open gallery ringed the upper level. There were several dozen sparse rooms with linoleum on the floors. Nearby were communal showers and changing rooms like those in a gymnasium.

I wasn't sure if this were good news or bad news, but very few sporting events were scheduled during the summer. This meant that perhaps only a dozen rooms were occupied by fine specimens of young men, who had never met an American before. Their eagerness to communicate, to learn about American pop culture, left me with mixed emotions. It was tempting to stay and talk, but I had many things to do.

It was time to take in some sights of the city. Map in hand, I went exploring in the old town square (the word "old," here, means at least 200 years). The pure baroque section of the city, which was used in the movie *Amadeus*, is referred to as the New Quarter.

One of the first things I noticed was a 15th century horologue on the facade of the 14th century town hall. Each hour a scythe-wielding skeleton representing Father Time mechanically came to life and chimed the hour. Then two doors opened, with statuettes of the 12 apostles revolving through one and disappearing through the other. It was constructed 500 years before the computer chip and has accurate-

ly chronicled the solar and lunar cycles, days of the week, months of the year, and signs of the zodiac ever since.

Standing below were the jovial locals, one of whom offered a pleasing sampling of Bohemian manhood. He had tousled blond hair and blue eyes which were accentuated by his sweater of the same color. Those eyes separated him from the crowd.

Time moved on, and the show was over. But then a new game began. It was an elaborate cat-and-mouse pursuit which drew me through the maze of streets. Then he turned and disappeared. I was lost and about to give up when I saw him again, going through a doorway. It was an impressive proscenium for the beginning of a new drama.

Fear, I learned, had necessitated this elaborate *pas de deux*. My first encounter introduced me to some of the perils facing a gay person living in a communist country. The oppression experienced by gay men and women in the United States prior to Stonewall was equivalent to a slap on the wrist compared to the fears I began to see in Prague.

In theory, there were no laws against homosexuality in Eastern Bloc nations because, in the perfect society created through socialist reform, such an aberration cannot exist. Arbitrary harassment, however, was not uncommon, though such incidents didn't reach the press.

Discovery meant permanent ostracism. To obtain basic middle-class comforts which Americans take for granted, concessions had to be made. Outward dedication to the state, the party, and its ideology was the foundation upon which a more comfortable lifestyle was to be built. Any flaws would weaken that foundation, holding some to the lowest level of the established order. Anyone remaining outside the accepted format of marriage for too long became suspect.

Public gay meeting places were few and dangerous. An underground social network was discreet and selective. The more flagrant gays were avoided at all costs.

A modicum of "eccentricity" was officially afforded, however, to those who contributed their creative talents to the embellishment of the national image. Artists and musicians traveled freely, officially representing their country's cultural advancements to the world. Respected scientists attended international gatherings.

These important people were financially well-compensated and were offered splendid living quarters. But they had to remain alert. Any questionable pursuits were conducted in a whispered atmosphere. Being compromised would have meant the end of their place among the elite.

The Grand Hotel at the center of Wenceslas Square was a discreet meeting place for afternoon tea. Its open mezzanine afforded a view of those entering or leaving the lobby. Friends grouped around small, marble-top tables, their eyes constantly monitoring



The 'Little Quarter' in winter.

the main entrance.

At first this scene resembled cruising in a gay bar. But as I began to observe more closely, I wondered if the customers would have dashed for a fire escape if someone came in who offered a threat. Outwardly, the scene conjured thoughts of the public gatherings that took place among Oscar Wilde and his associates.

The secrecy of Czech gay life went against what was going on in the rest of the country. In the spring of 1968, Party Secretary Alexander Dubcek initiated reforms which captured the world's imagination. Like naughty children indifferent to the gentle scoldings of a loving parent, the Czechs stuck their tongues out at the Russians. Scathing satires started appearing in newspapers and on leaflets. Debates raged in the country. It was like a breath of fresh air behind the Iron Curtain.

Moscow was left with little choice but to act against internal challenge. The Czechs thought the Russians were bluffing when Warsaw Pact "training maneuvers" were taking place inside Czech borders. They didn't see anything wrong with the reforms

which Dubcek and President Svoboda (the Czech word for liberty) had brought to the country. They simply saw their modification of Communist doctrine as something which better suited their country's individuality.

Had Pavel lied to me last night? He left me with a crowd of about 20 people, standing in the street in front of U Fleku, a popular beer garden that had been built as part of a monastery in the 13th century. Encouraged by the applause, an aspiring tenor entertained us with variations of Verdi arias.

The laughter and the singing drowned out the roar of the approaching tanks.

The next morning I was still in bed, with my thoughts running back to the great cathedral of St. Vitus. I remembered its beautiful, baroque, central spire. I remembered a stained-glass window which was designed by Alphonse Mucha. I remembered a performance of the Berlioz *Requiem*.

But most of all, I remembered an angel with apple cheeks who caught my eye through the crowd standing in the back. Each time

I glanced in his direction, he moved closer. When the performance ended, the angel had flown away. Or so I thought. Outside in the courtyard, his smile assuaged my disappointment. His name was Pavel.

Pavel was average in height (I never knew exactly how tall). He had light brown, curly hair, a natural swimmer's build, and those captivating blue eyes. His smile radiated a glow so bright, it was impossible to avoid being infused with its warmth. He emanated the open innocence of a young deer, full of wonder and curiosity. Yet there was an innate sense of danger in his manner.

A buoyant agility and capricious approach to every new experience made him seem younger than his years. All this concealed his secret anxieties, which were securely shielded from family and friends. By mutual agreement, he rarely met his two gay friends publicly. He doggedly avoided any public places frequented by gays in pursuit of sexual encounters.

His parents were never mentioned, and I never asked. He and a sister lived with their grandmother. I got the idea that Pavel's

parents had defected to the West, leaving their children and the grandmother to fend for themselves.

Nothing pleased him more than taking me to some little, candlelit, wine cellar tucked away in an inner courtyard or ushering me through a barely noticeable gate and into a lush, secret garden. Some magical insight drew him to such oases, and I came to see how important they were as retreats from the unpleasant realities waiting outside.

It was amazing how much I understood in spite of his limited English. Our indispensable bilingual dictionary was our bond of communication. It was often frustrating because of its simplistic translations, but it was the best we came up with.

I'll never forget the little things about Pavel. One day, he darted away from me to rub the sleeve of a passing chimney sweep, because as a child he had been told that to do so would bring good luck.

My reverie was shattered by a tremendous roar from outside. I catapulted from my bed, threw open the shutters, and froze despite the presence of the warm sunlight streaming into the room. Below were Russian tanks. Immediately the little door in my mind that contains survival instructions flew open.

I dressed quickly and flew out the door. I had to figure out not only where to go and how to get there, but also how to get around the damn tanks without being apprehended. It was no time to cruise soldiers.

But if I had to encounter Russians, I figured that I would just show them my passport. At that, my reflexes automatically patted the pocket where I always carried my passport, as one might do with a lucky charm in times of stress. The empty feeling in the pocket caused an empty feeling in my stomach, as I remembered it sitting on the stand by my bed.

Now what? If the soldiers search the villa and find it, I'm lost. Such a valuable document would not be left behind. If they don't search the villa, I'm still lost until I can retrieve it. Would the embassy officials believe me without identification? Would anybody? Should I go back for it? What are the Russian words for "Come up to my room, and I'll show it to you?" Too late.

As I crossed the Moldau River to the Narodni, the main shopping street, clouds of smoke hung low to the ground, contained by the heavy summer air. It was visibly choking the spirit out of people who had been singing and dancing in the streets less than 24 hours before. Wenceslas Square, where I had strolled, shopped, and cruised daily, now was occupied by an almost solid line of tanks leading up to the National Museum at the top of the street, parting the masses of people.

Their presence angered the people, but they were unable to do anything to stop the tanks. Evidence of their impotence stood out in the form of white

David F. Plotz

Aug. 8, 1951-July 1, 1988

David F. Plotz, 36, died July 1 after a courageous 18-month struggle with AIDS. Throughout this ordeal, and especially during the last months of his life, he was lovingly supported by his family and friends.

David worked as credit manager at Pepsi Cola/ New Century Beverage Co. in the city and remained committed to his job until forced to go on disability last February. Prior to that, he served as a tour escort for Maui Tours and, before that, was a school teacher in the Bay Area and Australia, where he lived for two years.

A native of Alameda, he is survived by his parents Ken and Eleanor of San Lorenzo; his brothers and sisters-in-law Mike and Carol, Tom and Lori; his niece Lindsey; nephews John, Ryan, Kyle; his Aunt Beverly; his Uncle Fred; a loving and caring network of friends and family; and his two cats. A memorial service was held July 7 at St. John's Catholic Church in San Lorenzo. Donations may be sent in David's name to the AIDS Foundation and/or Shanti.

David was more than just a friend—he was companion, confidante, court jester—but, above all, brother. While he is no longer among us, we embrace the belief that everything he was lives in our memories and that his brief time with us has enriched our lives. And though we may be sad and grieving right now, we can honestly console ourselves with knowing that, because of David, there's probably some dancing in heaven tonight.

"I'll see ya when I see ya!"

James Maxwell Baldwin

June 14, 1948-June 29, 1988

In the early morning hours of June 29, 1988, James was taken from us after living fully with AIDS for two years. He was born in Bangkok, raised in Hong Kong and Laguna Beach, and came to San Francisco in 1975. He is best known here as the proprietor of three different beauty salons bearing his name. His hundreds of clients/friends are forever enriched by his wise counsel, quiet charm, and sophisticated wit.

James was an accomplished sailor, gardener, and cook. He was fluent in the Cantonese language and was a lover of all things Asian. A world traveler all his life, James was happiest right at home in the nest, snuggled with me, David J. Flores, his mate of 12 years.

I know James as my tender, handsome, romantic little Duckfish, my Gamal, never complaining of his condition, giving generously of his energies to those in need while he could. James is also survived by his sister Laara Zimmerman and brother Simeon Baldwin III. We are comforted by the knowledge that he was a completely fulfilled man, and he continues to be an inspiration by the way he lived. I'm proud of you, James, and I'll continue to make you proud of me.

I miss you terribly, honey—the heartbreak is awful—but I'll be strong until we are joined and sail again in warm waters. Quack!

Bob Russell

May 22, 1952-July 4, 1988

You filled our eyes with beauty and a bright light, our ears with piano's play and fine tenor song, our hearts with such broad spirit—such joy of life.

You loved and were often sustained by that quote from Garp: "Someday I'll die, too, and so will you. The thing is, Garp, to have a life before you die: It can be a real adventure."

Thank you, honey, for the kisses, the warm embraces of the life you gave. We miss you, we love you so.

Raised in Massachusetts, Bobby made San Francisco his home in 1981. Diagnosed with KS in May 1983, he emerged as a quiet hero for us, jousting long and valiantly with AIDS, recently celebrating a fifth anniversary of triumph. Bobby was active in Shanti, had just helped co-found PWA Voice, and was catalyzing an AIDS volunteer program at St. Luke's Hospital. During a vacation in Kauai, he died amidst love and no pain.

Bobby's memorial service will be held Sunday, July 24, 5:45 p.m., at the Swedish Church, 2107 Lyon at Washington. Donations may be made to PWA Voice, 2215R Market St. #247, S.F. 94114. For further information, contact Mike Frederickson at 285-2079.

—Jeff Cohen

Daniel L. Robison

Nov. 16, 1946-July 8, 1988

Dan passed on to a new life on Friday, July 8, after a 22-month struggle. He did so in the comfort of his family home in the Sierra foothills he loved so much.

A graduate of St. Mary's College and a veteran of a Vietnam, Dan devoted his adult years to helping others dependent on drugs and alcohol. His time at Phoenix Recovery Centers was as intense as it was fulfilling, and cherished more only by those he touched. That same intensity carried through in his devotion to his parents June and Bob, his sister Diane, and his beloved niece June.

"When I met you, my whole life changed. I only dreamed of being so much in love. Thank you for making my dreams come true." Dan, there really is no "I" in "we," and only time 'til we are one again to continue on with our dream. I love you—Marc.

Memorial services will be held at 1 p.m. Friday, July 15, at St. Patrick's Church in Grass Valley, CA. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to the AIDS charity of your choice.

Kent B. Brown

May 14, 1947-July 3, 1988

Kent died peacefully early Sunday morning due to complications from AIDS. He put up a valiant struggle during these last two years, enriching many lives and being a model of courage and love.

He would want to thank every AIDS organization in San Francisco, especially Open Hand and the people from the AIDS Mastery, who taught him how to love with AIDS. Many of you will remember Kent from his bartending days all around the city and for his work with the AIDS Mastery. He loved working with people and died convincing them that life is worth living.

Part of his ashes will be scattered in San Francisco Bay, and part with his mother's ashes near Santa Fe, where he was born. He leaves behind his loving sister Bradley and her family, his brother Richard and his family, and countless friends (Ted, Joe, David, Tommy, Sue, Michael, and all the unnamed others).

There will be a memorial at the First Unitarian Church on Franklin and Geary, July 27, in the small chapel at 7:30 p.m.

Robbie Marie Anderson

Nov. 30, 1956-May 16, 1988

Robbie Marie was in a fatal motorcycle accident on May 16, 1988.

She was one of the first women in the lathing trade and had completed nearly ten years in Local 65. She was an active union member and had plans to run for office. She was a shining example for other tradeswomen and was well respected by her fellow workers.

Her drive and ambition and incredible energy kept her busy working on renovation and design on two different homes, as well as volunteer work for the Gay Games. She loved playing pool for Scott's A Team, scuba diving, motorcycles, and gardening.

Her vitality for life and sardonic sense of humor are how she will be remembered by most. Her absence will leave a heart-felt void in the lives of her loving friends and family.

Remembrances can be made to the Oceanic Society, Fort Mason, Bldg. E, S.F., CA 94123.

Michael (Fred) Wolf

May 7, 1947-June 18, 1988

On the morning of June 18, 1988, Michael's spirit left this world. He left behind his loving mother Florence Bowlin of San Jose, his lover Tony, and many friends.

Michael lived in the San Francisco area for nearly 20 years and has enriched the lives of many people. Although his spirit is gone, those of us who knew and loved Michael will always have those special memories of him and the good times that we shared together.

We loved Michael and will miss him dearly—his friends, especially Steve.

Don Crain

Don Crain passed away in his home on Tuesday evening, July 5. He was surrounded by his close friends, family, his dogs and cats.

Don was an avid horticulturist who enjoyed collecting and studying all kinds of plants in general, but mostly rare and unusual plants. He was a member of the California Horticultural Society, a docent at Strybing Arboretum, and a member of the Orchid Society of S.F.

Don was raised in San Antonio, Texas, and was a medical corpsman in the USAF for four years and an LVN for eight years before studying horticulture at CCSF.

He came to California in 1975 after his discharge from the Air Force, lived in San Bernardino for a year, in Venice in L.A. for three years, and in San Francisco since 1979.

San Francisco has been a magical, wonderful place to experience, and Don truly considered it his home.

For information regarding Don's memorial celebration, call 255-1738.

Richard Ruggiero

Richard Ruggiero, born in 1949 in Brooklyn, N.Y., passed into the light on June 13, 1988, at Ralph K. Davies Hospital after a courageous 18-month battle with AIDS.

His passing will leave much emptiness in the lives of all he touched. A farewell gathering will be held for Richard on Saturday, July 16, at 2 p.m. at Comisky Roche Funeral Home, located at 16th and Dolores streets in San Francisco, the city he so loved.

Goodbye, baby.

Darryl H. Fine

Oct. 13, 1944-June 10, 1988

After an 18-month battle with AIDS, our friend Darryl died peacefully at Long Beach Memorial Hospital.

He moved to California 20 years ago from Massachusetts and lived in the Bay Area and Southern California. During that time he touched many of our lives, and we're all much richer as a result. While he will be deeply missed, his memory will be with us forever.

Darryl will be remembered at a gathering of friends to be held on Monday evening, July 18, in the city he called home. For information about the gathering, call Don Albert (641-5113), Dave Chaffee (453-6840), or Charlie Marshall (550-1391).

Edward J. Krupp

Nov. 23, 1924-June 18, 1983

Ed Krupp, a longtime resident of the San Francisco community, died June 18 of complications following two strokes and peritonitis. He is survived by his mother, four brothers, and one sister. He was an ardent opera buff and will be missed by his many friends in San Francisco, including Bob, Harry, Dick, and Ernie.

Obituary Policy

Due to an unfortunately large number of obituaries, Bay Area Reporter has been forced to change its obituary policy.

We must now restrict obits to 200 words. And please, no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar, and taste.

Deadline for all obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m.

Man Sought For Questioning In S.F. Killing



Homicide Inspectors Jim Crowley and Ora Guinther, of the San Francisco Police Department, are attempting to locate Jose Sergio Portillo, Latin male, 22 years old, 5'5", 135 lbs., black hair, brown eyes. Portillo lived with Angel Hernandez previously at 1141 Post Street, San Francisco. Portillo is originally from San Salvador, El Salvador. He has been seen recently in the Mission district.

Inspector Jim Crowley emphasized that Portillo was wanted for questioning only and was not considered a suspect at this time.

On May 18, Angel Hernandez was found murdered in his apartment. His apartment had been set on fire. The victim's vehicle was found at 2055 Sunnyside. The vehicle had also been burned. Any information please contact SFPD Inspector Jim Crowley or Ora Guinther, Homicide Detail, 553-1145.

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Hungary Sanctions Gay Rights Group

Gay Lib Comes to Eastern Europe To Promote Rights and Education

by Donald Catalano and Richard Steinman

BUDAPEST—Eastern Europe's first officially approved organization for lesbians and gay men was launched with the blessings of the government of the Hungarian People's Republic on May 8 in Budapest. Attended by more than 100 persons, the "founding assembly" marked the fact that HOMEROS-Lambda is now officially registered as a "national organization" with the approval of the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs (MHSA), which was represented at the meeting. During the next 30 hours, the event was prominently featured in the national media.

Unofficially, the organization has been meeting for a number of months. However, in Hungary it is mandatory to be granted government recognition or at least to operate as a wing of another organization so recognized. In the German Democratic Republic, gay and lesbian groups function under the auspices of the National Youth Movement or the Evangelical Church.

This point was driven home by the fact that the five members of the presidium, governing body of the new organization, were approved by the government ministry in advance of their unanimous election by the HOMEROS members gathered on May 8. All of those officers approved by the government have been members of the group during the period of its unofficial existence (see sidebar). They had been proposed to the government by a 16-member steering committee. Three of the five are male medical doctors, a fourth is a male sociologist, and a fifth is a female technician.

The "founding assembly" was highlighted by a keynote address and greetings from the co-secretary general of the International Lesbian/Gay Association (ILGA). As this was its first official meeting, the assembly also took care of organizational matters including the registration of 87 members, election of leaders, acceptance of proposed bylaws, and the introduction and remarks of each of the officers.

To close the meeting, upcoming events were announced and a plea was made for everyone present to recruit additional members.

"We consider each member as an activist who is to bring more people and spread information," Andrea Doory, vice chair, stated. "The more we are, the less vulnerable we are."

Peter Ambrus, the sociologist who initiated the organization, was elected general secretary. In his keynote address, he said that preparations for the organization weren't easy. While there has been a kind of tolerance toward homosexuality in Hungarian society, it was seriously eroded by the advent of AIDS.

Both the government and the founders of HOMEROS share two main objectives which constitute the primary rationale for the legitimization of this organization: to fight against AIDS and to make homosexuals' personalities more complete by being able to openly claim their individual identities and have a group identity, as well.

Amidst the economic and political turbulence which Hungary is currently undergoing, approval of an independent national organization for homosexuals, with appropriate rights and duties, has become one of the cardinal

signs of Hungary's efforts toward democratization and the expansion of human rights.

Creation of an organization has won support among the intelligentsia. However, consistent with intolerant Hungarian traditions, certain other strata of society have expressed disapproval, and this has been exacerbated by AIDS phobia. But the government administration has reportedly lent steadfast support during this initial organizing phase, though the terms and conditions of continued government support remain vague.

HOMEROS-Lambda does not wish to be an elite organization. On the contrary, one of its manifest aims is to initiate the homosexual "masses" into the organization "in the long run." This is expressed in the inner structure designed for the organization: a network of clubs of partial autonomy all over the country of 10.5 million people.

HOMEROS-Lambda wants to demonstrate that it can provide the framework for homosexuals to "pass their free time in security and in a civilized way." Hence, before the close of the assembly, a series of activities were announced for the forthcoming week: a shipboard disco on the Danube River, which runs through the heart of Budapest; the launching of a film interest group (one of a number proposed) which will have its first film showing—of *Saturday Night at the Ritz*—at a theater operated by a lesbian; and a disco at a lesbian-operated cafe which also has a dance floor. It is intended that the latter will evolve into a gay/lesbian discotheque.

In the words of Ambrus, "We want to show people that activities under HOMEROS' auspices have all the advantages of legality and security and that joining us does not entail any drawbacks for them."

By way of introducing Jean-Claude Letist, the co-secretary general of ILGA, Ambrus said, "It is our intention to become a member of ILGA. Initial steps have been taken toward this [i.e., seeking the approval of the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs] and, theoretically, there is no obstacle."

ILGA's Letist is one of Europe's most forceful and eloquent gay leaders. He is a native of Belgium who, for a number of years, has lived and worked in West Germany, where he is also a leading gay activist in Cologne. His remarks, delivered in French, were translated into Hungarian for the audience. He rejoiced in the precedent established both by HOMEROS' formation and its legitimization.

He described ILGA's mission and that of all lesbians and gay men: to fight oppression around



'Pavel'

Prague Spring

(Continued from previous page)

pockmarks scattered across the facade of the museum. Confused and disoriented in their late night assault, the Russians mistakenly fired on the museum,

assuming it was the radio building.

Pavel told me later that, on hearing of the incipient attack, listeners were urged to rush out-

side and remove the street signs from all corner buildings. Centuries of varied ideas about city planning had created havoc among all but the oldest residents. Getting lost, even in a tank, was not unusual. This type of mischievous thinking offers an excellent example of the spirit that has helped Czechs retain their unflagging optimism through centuries of oppression.

One thing the Russians wanted to do was cut off the lines of communication. That meant Pavel was in trouble. It was hours before he was allowed to go home. When he dragged himself into his family's flat, he was relieved to find that his grandmother and sister were safe. He even managed to smile at me. One quick, meaningful look was our only shared embrace.

Overnight, the joy was gone out of Prague. Because the Czechs dared to be different from their other socialist brothers, they ended up as an example to other members of the Eastern Bloc.

I will always have my memories of Prague. Some of them are good, and some of them are not so good. I had a chance to live in one of the world's most magnificent cities, yet I saw this city struggle under ideological persecution. I met a wonderful young man named Pavel, who could have left with me because he had a visa which gave him the option.

But that would have meant leaving this wonderful city and never coming back. His deep love of family, country and city would never let him do that.

the world, the oppression both of homosexuals and of other vulnerable groups. He urged those assembled to fight for the right to be different, which entailed fighting against sexism and racism, as well as homophobia.

"To be an activist," he summed up, "is to be a conscious

citizen who fights to ensure the rights of minorities."

Letist emphasized the importance of HOMEROS and other lesbian/gay groups as providing the "first step toward peace and joy—the opportunity to know each other."

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Chicago Rights Org. Occupies FDA Office

At 'Impasse' With Regional Head After Blasting Feds' Drug Policies

by Rex Wockner

Chicago for AIDS Rights (C-FAR) occupied the office of the regional director of the Food and Drug Administration on June 16, demanding—among other things—that the director, Ray Mlecko, use his speaker phone to put through a call to FDA Commissioner Frank Young in Rockville, Maryland.

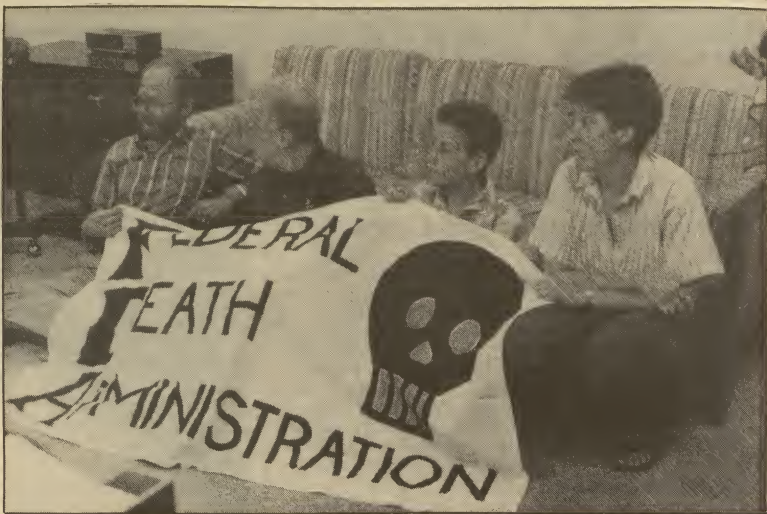
After more than an hour of sometimes courteous and sometimes combative conversation, Mlecko and C-FAR pronounced themselves at an "impasse." C-FAR members Ferd Eggan and Paul Adams then commandeered two phones in Mlecko's office and began dialing Rockville themselves. At the same time, six other members of the group unfurled a banner across Mlecko's office which read, "Federal Death Administration."

Security officers—slow to arrive—ejected this reporter from Mlecko's office and removed two TV camera crews from a nearby hallway before handcuffing the

eight protestors and escorting them to a secure area.

Some of the officers wore rubber gloves. Others pushed and shoved protestors to steer them clear of TV crews still trying to film through a locked, glass door.

C-FAR's wide-ranging conversations with Mlecko addressed the FDA's slow drug approval process, FDA "catering to profit-seeking drug companies," the "nonrelease" of promising AIDS drugs, the lack of a national medical service, and "the necessity of getting pentamidine [a treatment for pneumocystis carinii pneumonia] off of orphan drug status [the FDA regulation under which



C-FAR sits in at the FDA, which they call the "Federal Death Administration."

LyphoMed, Inc.—a frequent target of C-FAR actions—has a monopoly on the drug).

C-FAR also demanded that pharmaceutical companies be prohibited from "extorting huge profits from people with AIDS," that "cruel and self-defeating placebo drug trials be ceased," and that the FDA establish a

"central database with current information on all AIDS-related projects."

ACTIVISTS SURPRISED

Activists were surprised at Mlecko's willingness to talk for an hour with invading demonstrators. Mlecko tried to answer each question the group raised

and told protestors he was particularly proud of the FDA's "fast track" for potential anti-AIDS drugs.

"I had a feeling he somewhat understood our frustration and pain," said one C-FAR member.

At the same time, activists were upset about the style of Federal Postal Security officers. "One officer got really angry," said protestor Mary Patten, "and when I was turning to look at where the press was, he grabbed my arm in a vise-like grip and said, 'I said move that way!' They were really paranoid about media attention."

Eight protestors were taken into custody by security forces—but all were released without charge.

C-FAR plans continued actions against the FDA and against LyphoMed, which has raised the price of pentamidine 400 percent in the past four years. The group hopes to convince the FDA that aerosol pentamidine—currently in development by LyphoMed and one other company—should not be an orphan drug, since it will not meet the requirement of having a potential market of less than 200,000 persons.

Friday

(Continued from page 10)

funds for expanded outpatient treatment programs, development of an AIDS vaccine, and \$225,000 for the Barlow Hospice Center in Los Angeles. After whacking the hell out of AIDS programs, senior citizen programs, money for hospital trauma centers, etc., the Republican governor boasted that "the economy is booming, and California is ready for the future."

San Francisco Democratic Chairperson Carole Migden was elected to a four-year term on the Demo National Committee this week by California Democrats, making her one of only two from the gay community nationwide to sit on that body. Political insiders tell me that prominent S.F. attorney Neil Eisenberg could become the next chair of the state Democratic Party.

Examiner columnist Rob Morse auctioned off a \$200 gift certificate from Wilkes Bashford at Monday night's AIDS Emergency Fund gala at Bimbo's. Morse's wife ended up the high bidder, giving the 200 bucks which should be good for a pair of socks at the posh men's store.

Friends of District Attorney Arlo Smith holding a reception for the probable candidate July 28 at the Clift Hotel from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. (\$150; cocktails and hors d'oeuvres; call Laura Talmus at 673-0806 for info).

Should You Take AZT if Your AIDS Antibody Test is Positive?



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BAY AREA REPORTER GREATER BAY NEWS



The Pacific Center for Human Growth was only one of many contingents representing the East Bay in the S.F. Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade. (Photo: Rink)

Oakland Schools Include Gays in Class Curriculum

Lifestyles, Discrimination To Be Discussed by Teachers

by Jay Newquist

Oakland public school teachers are now permitted to discuss discrimination against sexual minorities in the classroom. The recent expansion of minority status to include gay and lesbian lifestyles was achieved in part due to the efforts of the Bay Area Network of Gay and Lesbian Educators (BANGLE). Oakland schools enroll 55,000 students.

The Oakland School board made the decision recently, following a recommendation of a task force formed a year ago in the wake of a racial slur made by a teacher.

Don Dinelli, a BANGLE member on the committee, said gay and lesbian members had to fight to be included as a minority in the final report.

"It was a real tussle, it was hard to include us," Dinelli said, indicating that a lot of time was given to discussion of the status of racial minorities. The gay and lesbian agenda almost got short shrift.

"The final product wasn't good until we insisted that gays and lesbians be a part of the mandate," he said.

Teachers are now permitted to include sexual minorities in their instruction in all grade levels and courses pertinent to discrimination against all minorities.

Dinelli said the school board decision was more than simply permission to speak about sexual minorities. "It's really a mandate to include discrimination against gays and lesbians in the classroom."

The ruling was quite an achievement, said Dinelli, since another BANGLE member was reprimanded by her principal when she spoke to her class about her participation in the March on Washington last October.

The Oakland school system has also set aside days for its teachers to attend seminars on

minority slurs and discrimination.

An ethnic studies course will also be mandatory for all students in the 9th and 10th grades.

Oakland school authorities also formed a second task force to devise a plan to implement the ruling in the curriculum.

Dinelli, a world history teacher at Fremont High School, said gay and lesbian teachers would have no trouble with the new curriculum, but he wondered how gay and lesbian material would be handled by straight teachers *en masse*.

"It will take a lot of work to draw up the curriculum, there's not a lot of teaching materials available about sexual minorities," he said.

"They teach James Baldwin, but they don't know how to deal with his homosexuality, ignoring it most of the time."

Dinelli took a semester sabbatical to research gays and lesbians in world history at U.C. Berkeley in order to firm up his own knowledge.

He said there were tons of material out there, but not in instructional form. He thought there was a book in it for him.

The new task force to implement a new curriculum hasn't met yet, Dinelli said, but the 400-member BANGLE would have active representation.

"The whole thing is an extremely positive step, although how wide the ruling is implemented is another question," he said.



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ESTIVAL NOEL

(A 'How Come No Runlets?' Nose)

Ed Paulson and the Spoiled Brat present the second annual Christmas in July Auction and Food Drive this Sunday, July 17, at 3 p.m. It is a benefit for East Bay Assistance Fund and AIDS Food Bank.

Some of the items going on the block include an executive Drexel desk with two matching bookcases; a complete set of Lennox china (ovenware, dishes, and serving pieces); antique cranberry glass; a 5x9-inch, hand-tied, Oriental rug; and lots of antiques,

original art, and silver. More items are needed, so contact Ed at 881-9310 or the Spoiled Brat at 782-2728.

One feature of this year's auction is a \$100 prize awarded to the bar, organization, or individual with the best decorated, full food barrel.

"I can't understand it," replied Ed. "The food barrel thing just doesn't seem to be taking hold. I haven't noticed too many barrels at East Bay bars. Could you put in another blurb? The food is really needed, and \$100 isn't too bad of a prize. Most bars should have the barrels from the

last Christmas in July Auction, so there's no reason for not participating. Hopefully we'll get some last-minute entries by the time the auction gets here."

Visa, MasterCard, and American Express will be honored this year for ease of payment. It is emphasized that all items must be paid for in full and removed from the Brat by auction's end. We all know the reasoning behind this decision, don't we?

ETESIAN SPHEROID GAMBOL

(An 'I Won't Cheat... Maybe' Nose)

Val's annual softball game between the guys and the gals will

be played this Sunday, July 17, at Burkhalter Park in Oakland at 1 p.m. This is always a fun event, and the crowds seem to be getting larger every year.

Val will be stationed way over at third base, so she shouldn't be able to see too clearly just what antics I may have in store at first base! Hopefully, her team won't fink on me. Jeez! Seems to me her team usually wins the game anyway!

The usual barbeque will be held downtown after the game for five bucks a head, with lots of food, fun, raffles, and prizes. I, however, won't partake, because my presence is requested for bookkeeping duties at Ed Paulson's auction at the Spoiled Brat. (Ed is hoping Marv will be able to assist Kenny Sue and me, too.) Maybe some of the crowd from the game will want to venture down Hayward way to partake of the auction bargains. No, I haven't heard whether the Brat will do its regular Sunday barbeque that day. Check with them about that.

AN ADDITIONAL ANNUAL AFFAIR

(An Al Fresco Nose)

The third "Barbeque—Of the People, By the People, For the People" will be held Sunday, Aug. 7, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on the grounds of Fairmont Hospital in San Leandro.

As in years past, all the food will be donated, and it is free to any and all. Beer, wine, and soft drinks will be the only items sold. The proceeds will go to the Fairmont Hospital Canteen Fund. The exact entertainment lineup hasn't been finalized yet, but Mama Chuckles promises "more and better than ever before!"

A new addition this year will be carnival-type booths sponsored by local bars and organizations. There will be a charge to play the games, and these proceeds, too, will go to the Canteen Fund. If

your bar or organization is interested in setting up such a booth, contact Mama Chuckles at 632-0325 or call 832-BASH.

I understand Mama Chuckles has asked Ed Paulson to help out this year, and he agreed. I'm wondering whether Mama Chuckles' schedule will allow her to help out Ed at the auction next Sunday?

FARRAGO (A Goulash Nose)

Lloyd-ie Mae wants to get a bus organized from the Turf Club to the Tavern Guild Picnic this year, but he doesn't know the date of the picnic. If anyone out there does know the date, contact him at 881-9877.

Emperor and Empress Carlos and Tootsi will present a beer bust Sunday, July 24, Madison Avenue, of course. It will be only \$5 for all the beer you can drink. There will be lots of raffles and prizes, with the proceeds going for court pins at Coronation '88.

Speaking of Carlos, sources inform me that he is in the hospital with some leg ailment. Knowing him, he'll be up and at 'em in time for the beer bash.

Speaking of Tootsi, she informed me not long ago, in no uncertain terms, that I had better be at the next "All Male Revue." She wouldn't answer any of my questions, but her look indicated there would be some surprises! For me?

The first "go-round" of money has been doled out by Different Spokes from their Bike-a-Thon, and East Bay Assistance Fund is the recipient of a tremendous \$4,804.30 so far. Plaudits and kudos to Different Spokes and all who participated in this worthwhile event.

Squelch that gossip! Word is being spread—no one seems to know just exactly where it originated—that when George and B.J. received financial assistance many moons ago, they were supposedly heard to say, "Is that all there is?" The horse's mouth emphatically states, "It ain't so!"

Yes, Ron of T&C now knows my spouse's first drink of any given day is free. He had the highest bid at an auction at Big Mama's several months ago, allowing him this honor—a free drink a day for one year. Thank heaven the offer isn't cumulative!

Enquiring minds want to know: Is it really because "Daddy" says no that Alan won't turn on the air conditioning on Monday and Tuesday afternoons at a local watering hole?

If you delay buying bananas or avocados before they are ripe, there won't be any left by the time they are ripe. If you buy them green, they will rot before they are eaten. I can smile at that!

—Love, Nez

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For more information about Gay and Lesbian Alumni of Occidental College, write P.O. Box 852, Temple City, California, 91780-0852 or call (213) 256-8249.

Dems

(Continued from page 1)

elimination of special interest groups. The Democratic Party feels it has suffered because it has been beholden to special interest groups, and we are lumped into that."

There will be a lesbian and gay caucus. But it will not have official party sanction. It will consist of between 60 and 70 delegates, depending on who's counting. Pat Norman, from San Francisco, who co-chaired the March on Washington, will join Jack Campbell from Florida to co-chair this year's convention caucus.

"I am not at all pleased with what is happening in the platform, that we are not mentioned anywhere, that none of our civil liberties or civil rights have been discussed," Norman said.

Setting the stage for the battle at the convention, Norman said, "We are going to push. We are not going back. My sense in talking to people across the country, both Dukakis and Jackson gay delegates and alternates, is that we are not happy and so we will have to talk."

"First of all," said Norman, "we have to come up with a strategy very quickly with lesbian and gay delegates who, I hope, are committed to lesbian and gay rights and gay issues. Also, to talk with all the other people we are in coalition with. We are not only for lesbian and gay rights but for the whole agenda. Since we have supported them, they must support us. We will be going to all of these people, particularly the Jackson campaign, saying we will not back down on a statement for civil rights for lesbian and gay people."

Barbara Cameron, vice-president of the Alice B. Toklas Club, said, "In fact, we have been very instrumental in the Jesse Jackson campaign, and we essentially delivered the vote. He won

in San Francisco, for example. What I want to see is a positive statement from the lesbian and gay delegates that we are part of the process."

Pam David, a lesbian delegate from San Francisco, is the co-chair of Lesbians and Gays for Jackson. "I do feel very strongly that we have to consistently, very loudly, and in as organized a fashion as we can, always place our agenda in front of the Democratic party. No one is going to fight for our rights without ourselves up there leading it. We should not expect to get anything without fighting for it. If we are not out there consistently fighting for it, we are going to get the crumbs," she said.

WIN WHITE HOUSE

Migden said she wanted to see "more done in a unified, national way." She served on the Platform Committee.

"If four of us meet for a week-end in Denver, there is so much we could do to patch up and make something right, and I think we were reasonably successful in accomplishing improvements and advances in the platform."

Migden continued, "There has been some regression in the platform in terms of the lesbian and gay language. That shouldn't be accepted, that is a problem. But rather than focus our anger on the fact of the document's laxness, we should be reflecting on what steps we should take to make sure that we are included in a substantial, ongoing way on the off-season years."

Pam David noted, "What you are seeing unfolding in the Democratic Party is a power struggle between progressives represented by Jesse Jackson and the more conservative forces who are being represented this time around by Michael Dukakis. And this is a struggle for who is really represented by the Democratic



Pat Norman and Jack Campbell, co-chairs of the gay caucus to the Democratic convention.

Party, who has a voice. It is about political empowerment. It is not going to be resolved at this convention or in 1988. We are going to have to see this unfold over a period of years."

For those watching the convention in San Francisco, Migden said, "Lesbian and gay people should look for a sense of identity and a sense of visibility, a demonstration of strength that they can identify with. It's our job as a gay delegation to find out how we can capture press time and press attention. Some of that is trying to do some visibility demonstrations."

PUSH GAY ISSUES

Pat Norman said, "We are going to be demonstrating on the floor as well as outside the convention. There are demonstrations planned by groups, including ACT UP and other groups from Southern California and around the country. You should look for us to start to make statements about those minority planks and for us to get the floor whenever possible. We intend to be extremely visible. Hopefully, we will be able to be identified. Look for a lot of purple."

Pam David said, "LEGAL is

the lesbian and gay group of Georgia and they are planning a rally on Sunday to kind of kick off the events. The lesbian and gay Democratic Clubs and the National Lesbian and Gay Task Force are organizing a whole week of events to make sure our issues stay in the public eye and in the delegate's eyes."

According to John Laird, "I think those watching on television should look for a gay and lesbian presence, and it's going to be significant because it is going to be there. It is going to be there in terms of a caucus event. It is going to be there in terms of the Atlanta local lesbian and gay political action committee, in terms of the gay and lesbian media, and it is going to be there in terms of 60 to 70 lesbian and gay delegates and alternates."

He also cautioned, "So if they don't see it, what they are seeing is a deliberate omission of a legitimate part of the action of the convention."

How the nomination for president will affect gay issues will also be a major concern for lesbian and gay delegates. Migden, a Dukakis delegate, said, "Frankly, it cannot be overstated how important it is to lesbian and gay people to have a Democratic

president for basic human rights issues. I do not believe we should be swept under and compromise our efforts or our integrity in the process."

Laird observed, "I am excited because the difference between 1984 and 1988 is that the party has a chance of winning, and we have the chance to be talking to people who will be part of putting together an administration in three or four months. The good side is that we might be able to really implement something. The bad side is that people are very gun shy about really dealing with gay and lesbian issues, and they know it might become a real negative issue in the campaign."

The Jackson forces go to the convention with over 1100 delegates, and they are not giving up. Jackson gay co-chair Pam David said simply, "that is premature" when asked if Jackson delegates would give their support to likely nominee Michael Dukakis.

Pat Norman was more direct. She said, "Ultimately what is good for the gay community is where I am going to go, and that is basically where most of the lesbian and gay delegates are going to go. I am not going simply because I want a Democratic president."

"I want something for that support," she added, "and I am not going to blindly support someone unless they are going to give us something in return, and that is basically where I am from."

According to Norman, gay voters have "been giving of ourselves in Democratic politics over the years, and we are not going to tolerate anyone dismissing us in any kind of fashion. This is not politics as usual. We are still fighting for our lives, and we are strongly fighting, and we will win. In that victory we will continue to go ahead."

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THIS

FRIDAY 15

• **Splash Dance:** an AIDS benefit sponsored by the Young Men's Dance Club and Friends for Life, Club 900, 32 9th St., S.F., 9 p.m.-4 a.m., \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door. Proceeds to benefit Project Open Hand and the AIDS Emergency Fund. Tickets at All American Boy, New York Man, and Headlines.

• **A Mime's Eye View:** one-woman show with Vicki Dello Joio, the Studio at Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., S.F., 8:30 p.m., \$8. Call 861-5079 for tickets.

• **Puttin' on the Glitz:** featuring female impersonators and cabaret guys, Sutter's Mill, 77 Battery St., S.F., 9:30 p.m., \$10, two-drink minimum. Call 788-8379 for reservations.

• **The Mother of Us All:** opera, City Theatre, City College, S.F., 8 p.m., tickets through Ticketron or by calling 239-3132. City Summer Opera performs the Virgil Thompson/Gertrude Stein collaboration.

• **I'm Getting My Act Together and Taking It on the Road:** stage performance, Jenner Playhouse, Highway 1, 20 minutes west of Guerneville via 116, \$7.50. Call (707) 865-2905 for more information.

• **Over Our Heads:** comedy, Code Blue, S.F., \$5. Call 979-5557 for more information.

• **Cabaret Night With Viva:** Scandals, 162 Turk St., S.F., 9 p.m.

• **High-Energy Music:** dancing at the Endup, 401 6th St., S.F., 9 p.m.-2 a.m., \$2 cover. With DJ Mike Dianella.

• **Modern Music Friday:** with DJ Steve Masters, B Street, 236 B St., San Mateo, 9 p.m., cover.

• **Club Infra-Red:** dancing, Scooters, 22 4th St., S.F., 9 p.m.-2 a.m., cover. Sound by Randy Schiller. Call 777-0880 for more information.

• **Sing-Along:** with Frank Banks on the piano, Belden 22, 22 Belden Place, S.F., 6-8 p.m.

• **Dick Fregulia:** music, Piano Zinc, 708 14th St., S.F., 8:30 p.m.

• **Black and White Men Together:** East Bay social activity, 3135 Courtland Ave., Oakland, 7:30-10 p.m. Call 261-7922 for more information.

• **Gay Basketball:** pickup games, 1525 Waller St., S.F., 6:30 p.m. Call 621-2710 for more information.

• **Church of the Secret Gospel:** Friday night social, 746 Clementina St., Apt. 2, S.F., 9 p.m.-midnight. Call 621-1887 for more information.

SATURDAY 16

• **Splash Tea Dance and Pool Party:** an AIDS benefit sponsored by the Young Men's Dance Club and Friends for Life, Oasis, 11th and Folsom, S.F., doors open at noon, dancing 3-7 p.m., \$5 in advance, \$10 at the door. Proceeds to benefit Project Open Hand and the AIDS Emergency Fund. Tickets at All American Boy, New York Man, and Headlines.

• **A Mime's Eye View:** one-woman show with Vicki Dello Joio (see Friday listing for details).

• **The Mother of Us All:** opera, 2:30 and 8 p.m. (see Friday listing for details).

• **I'm Getting My Act Together and Taking It on the Road:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).

• **Over Our Heads:** comedy, Mama Bear's, 6536 Telegraph Ave., Oakland, 8 p.m., \$6-\$8 sliding scale.

• **Cabaret Night With Viva:** Scandals, 162 Turk St., S.F., 9 p.m.

• **High-Energy Music:** dancing at the Endup, 401 6th St., S.F., 9 p.m.-2 a.m., \$4. With D.J. Mike Dianella.

• **Mark Levine:** music, Piano Zinc, 708 14th St., S.F., 8:30 p.m.

• **Club Infra-Red:** dancing (see Friday listing for details).

• **Puttin' on the Glitz:** featuring female impersonators and cabaret guys, 7:30 and 9:30 p.m. (see Friday listing for details).

• **Wild Fire Band:** country/western music and dancing, Turf Club, 22517 Mission Blvd., Hayward, 9 p.m., no cover. Also Sunday at 6 p.m.

• **Art Bosch:** author of *Boys' Town*, will sign copies of his book at The Love That Dares Bookshop, 506 Castro St., S.F., 12:30 p.m. Call 552-5111 for more information.

• **EastBay FrontRunners:** Point Pinole run. Take I-80 north to Hilltop Drive and go west past mall. Turn right onto San Pablo Avenue and go about half a mile. Turn left onto Atlas Road and stay on road to Point Pinole Park. Meet at parking road. Call 939-3579 or 261-3246 for more information.

• **S.F. Wrestling Club:** workout, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Call 538-8490 for more information.

• **Pool Tournament:** the Overpass, 482-A Hayes St., S.F., 4 p.m., \$4 includes well drink, beer, or wine. S.F. Pool Association rules apply.

• **Church of the Secret Gospel:** phallic fellowship, 746 Clementina St., Apt. 2, S.F., 10 p.m.-2 a.m. Call 621-1887 for more information.

• **Jailsex:** film, Gay Rescue Mission, 1080 Folsom St., S.F., 7 p.m.

• **Game Night:** for persons living with AIDS/ARC and HIV+, Rest Stop Support Center, 134 Church St., S.F., 7 p.m., free. Call 621-REST for more information.

SUNDAY 17

• **A Mime's Eye View:** one-woman show with Vicki Dello Joio (see Friday listing for details).

• **Puttin' on the Glitz:** featuring female impersonators and cabaret guys, 7:30, 9:30, and 11:30 p.m. (see Friday listing for details).

• **The Mother of Us All:** opera, 7 p.m., (see Friday listing for details).

• **Caylia Chaiken:** music, the Galleon, 718 14th St., S.F., 5:30 p.m., \$5.

• **Amy Dondy and Lauren Mayer:** music, the Galleon, 718 14th St., S.F., 8 p.m., \$8.

• **Black Orpheus:** music, El Rio, 3158 Mission St., S.F., 4-8 p.m., \$5. Brazilian music.

• **Faith Winthrop and Gus Gustavson:** music, Piano Zinc, 708 14th St., S.F., 8:30 p.m.

• **Jones Street Follies:** female impersonation, Black Rose, 335 Jones St., S.F., shows 10 and 11 p.m., \$2.

• **High-Energy Music:** dancing at the Endup, 401 6th St., S.F., 6 a.m.-2 a.m., no cover. With DJs Randy Tyler, Damion Johnson, and Mark Watkins.

• **Variety Show:** singing, dancing, comedy, and impersonations, Bench & Bar, 120 11th St., Oakland, 9 p.m.

• **Hugh Hunter:** reception for the mixed media artist, Bench & Bar, 120 11th St., Oakland, 7 p.m.

• **San Francisco FrontRunners:** mini-marathon memorial run. Meet at 34th and Clement, S.F., at 10 a.m. Call 922-1435 or 821-3719 for more information.

• **Volleyball for All:** volleyball for beginners, Golden Gate Park, S.F., noon-5 p.m. Sponsored by X-TA-C Volleyball. Call 995-2736 for more information.

• **Tsunami Masters Swim Team:** practice, King Pool, 3rd and Carroll streets, S.F., 10 a.m. Call 285-5659 for more information.

• **AIDS/ARC Dinner:** Gay Rescue Mission, 1080 Folsom St., S.F., 5 p.m., free.

• **Men's Clinic:** free and confidential VD testing and treatment; counseling and referrals for men with AIDS/ARC concerns, Gay Men's Health Collective, 2339 Durant Ave., Berkeley, 6-8 p.m. Call 644-0425 for more information.

• **Diablo Valley MCC:** worship service, 2253 Concord Blvd., Concord, 10 a.m. Call 827-2960 for more information.

• **Radiant Light Ministries:** service, Kabuki Theatre, 1881 Post St., S.F., 9 a.m. Call 861-1667 for more information.

• **New Life MCC:** worship service, 1823 9th St., Berkeley, 5 p.m. Call 843-9355 for more information.

• **Calvary MCC:** worship service, 2124 Brewster Ave., Redwood City, 5 p.m. Call 368-0188 for more information.

• **MCC of the Redwoods:** worship service, Olive and Throckmorton streets, Mill Valley, 10:45 a.m. Call 388-2315 for more information.

• **Golden Gate MCC:** worship service, 48 Belcher St., S.F., 12:30 and 7 p.m. Call 621-6300 for details.

MONDAY 18

• **S.F. Jacks:** party on the moon, 890 Folsom St., S.F., doors open 7:30-9 p.m., \$5.

• **S.F. Spikes:** soccer practice, West Sunset Soccer Fields, Sunset Blvd., Noriega and 39th streets, S.F., 6 p.m. Call 821-4248 for more information.

• **Country and Western Dance Lessons:** Turf Club, 22517 Mission Blvd., Hayward, 7:30-9:30 p.m., free. Also Tuesday and Thursday.



Puttin' on the Glitz continues this week.
(Photo: Rink)

WEEK



Comedian Renee Hicks plays El Rio July 20.
(Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene)

TUESDAY 19

- **She Even Chewed Tobacco:** slide/tape show on passing women in early San Francisco, sponsored by the S.F. Bay Area Gay and Lesbian Historical Society, Community Room, La Pena Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 7:30 p.m., \$5 (free to historical society members). Presented by Estelle Freedman and Liz Stevens.
- **Bob Sandner:** on the piano, D.J.'s, 1535 Olympic Blvd., Walnut Creek, 8:30 p.m.
- **In the Spotlight:** show, B Street, 236 S. B St., San Mateo, 9:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m. The bar provides musical backing tracks and words to all the songs, and you supply the voice to receive a free cassette recording of your performance.
- **Gus Gustavson:** music, Piano Zinc, 708 14th St., S.F., 8:30 p.m.
- **Where Did Our Love Go?:** discussion with Jessie Gutierrez, Ph.D., The Love That Dares Bookshop, 506 Castro St., S.F., 7-8 p.m. Call 552-5111 for more information.
- **Slightly Older Lesbians:** small-group discussion, Billy DeFrank Lesbian and Gay Community Center, 1040 Park Ave., San Jose, 7-9 p.m.
- **Jailsex:** film (see Saturday listing for details).
- **Gay Roller Skating:** Club Saare, 15721 E. 14th St., San Leandro, 8 p.m.-midnight, cover. Call 278-2095 for more information.
- **Homopolo:** gay and lesbian Waterpolo team workout, Oakland High School pool, 1055 McArthur Blvd., Oakland, 7:15-9 p.m. All levels of swimmers encouraged. Call 824-4848 for more information.
- **Temescal Gay Men's Chorus:** rehearsal, Trinity Hall, 2320 Dana, Berkeley, 7:30 p.m. Call 843-1439 for more information.
- **Gay International Folk Dancing:** for lesbians and gay men, Eureka Valley Recreation Center, Collingwood Park, S.F., teaching, 7:30-8 p.m., request dancing 8-9:30 p.m., \$2.50. Call 585-9784 or 285-5634 for details.
- **San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Marching Band and Twirling Corps:** rehearsal, Jon Sims Center, 1519 Mission St., S.F., 7:30 p.m. All band instrumentalists are needed. Call 621-5619 for more information. Every Tuesday.

WEDNESDAY 20

- **Renee Hicks, Sandy Van, Barry Brady, and Josh Kornbluth:** comedy, El Rio, 3158 Mission St., S.F., 8-10 p.m., \$4 cover, one-drink minimum.
- **Boy Club:** dancing, I-Beam, 1748 Haight St., S.F. Call 668-6023 for more information.
- **Trocadero Transfer:** weekly dinner/dance, 520 4th St., S.F., dinner 6-9 p.m., \$5.95. Call 495-6620 for more information.
- **Puttin' on the Glitz:** featuring female impersonators and cabaret guys, 9:30 and 11:30 p.m. (see Friday listing for details).
- **Dick Fregulia:** music, Piano Zinc, 708 14th St., S.F., 8:30 p.m.
- **Electric City:** television on PCTV, 9:30 p.m. Featuring Jesse Jackson at Coming Home Hospice, Maud's 22nd anniversary, the Miss Gay Universe contest, Gay American Indians, the Golden Gate Wrestling Club with Deena Jones, NAMBLA, the S.F. International Gay & Lesbian Film Festival, and highlights of the parade.
- **Panel of the AIDS Quilt:** presented by the Peninsula Business & Professional Association, Mountain View Community Center, 201 Rengsdorff, Mountain View. With Cleve Jones and Mike Smith.
- **Memorial Mass:** for people who have died of AIDS/ARC, Cathedral of St. Mary's, Geary and Gough, S.F., 7 p.m.

- **S.F. Spikes:** soccer practice, West Sunset Soccer Fields, Sunset Blvd., Noriega and 39th streets, S.F., 6 p.m. Call 821-4248 for more information.
- **Ballroom Dancing for Gays and Lesbians:** Studio 204, 3435 Army St., S.F., beginners 8-9 p.m., intermediates 9-10 p.m., \$5. Call 995-4962 for more information.
- **Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders:** writers workshop for older lesbians and gay men (50+), 1853 Market St., S.F., 6-8 p.m. Call 626-7000 for more information.
- **Wednesday Matinee:** sponsored by Operation Concern's Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders and North of Market Senior Services, 363 Golden Gate Ave., S.F., 2:15-4 p.m. Movies, games, and refreshments. Call 626-7000 for more information.
- **Western Star Dancers:** square dance for experienced mainstream level dancers, Central YMCA, 220 Golden Gate Ave., 2nd floor theater. Both males and females welcome. Every Wednesday. Call 621-5631 or 621-3990 for details.
- **Womanspirit:** MCC San Francisco, 150 Eureka, S.F., 7:30 p.m.

THURSDAY 21

- **Puttin' on the Glitz:** with female impersonators and cabaret guys, 9:30 and 11:30 p.m. (see Friday listing for details).
- **I'm Getting My Act Together and Taking It on the Road:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Feathers 'n' Flesh:** show, 'N Touch, 1548 Polk St., S.F., 10 p.m.
- **Faith Winthrop and Gus Gustavson:** music, Piano Zinc, 708 14th St., S.F., 8:30 p.m.
- **Lesbian Poetry Reading:** with Stephanie Henderson, Old Wives Tales, 1009 Valencia St., S.F., 7:30 p.m., free.
- **Tee Corrine:** slide show of women's genitals, Palo Alto YMCA, 7:30-9 p.m. Plus "Sapphocratic Love Story." Call 969-1260 for more information.
- **Electric City:** television on channel 23 in Sacramento, 6:30 p.m. (see Wednesday listing for details).
- **Black and White Men Together:** rap on current events, 1350 Waller St., S.F., 7:30-10 p.m. Call 931-BWMT for more information.
- **Square Dance Class:** for beginners, Live Oak School, 117 Diamond St., S.F., 7-9 p.m. sponsored by Foggy City Dancers. Call 339-0537 or 586-2748 for more information.
- **Service Through Touch:** residential weekend workshop for people with AIDS, their friends, family, caregivers, and volunteers, the Angela Center, 535 Angela Dr., Santa Rosa, sliding scale for PWAs. Facilitated by Irene Smith. Call 776-8853 or 564-1750 for more information.
- **Men's Group:** meeting, Billy DeFrank Lesbian and Gay Community Center, 1040 Park Ave., San Jose, 7:30-9 p.m.
- **Golden Gate Wrestling Club:** Olympic freestyle instruction, competition, and practice (see Tuesday listing for details).
- **San Francisco FrontRunners:** run. Meet at McLaren Lodge in Golden Gate Park at 6:30 p.m. Call 922-1435 or 821-3719 for more information.
- **Bingo:** to benefit Coming Home Hospice, S.F. AIDS Foundation Food Bank, and the AIDS Emergency Fund, Most Holy Redeemer Church, 100 Diamond St., S.F., doors open 6 p.m., games begin 7 p.m., \$10 minimum buy-in. An alcohol-free space. Snacks and nonalcoholic beverages sold. Smoking and nonsmoking areas. Pull tabs, door prizes, raffle.
- **ARC Drop-In Support Group:** weekly meeting, Room 206, Health Center 1, 3850 17th St., S.F., 6 p.m., free. Call 626-7000 for more information.
- **AIDS Christian Support Group:** meeting, Miller Avenue Church, 285 Miller Ave., Mill Valley, 8 p.m. Call 388-5993 for more information.
- **Gay Support Group for People With HIV+:** and alcohol/substance abuse, Operation Concern, 1853 Market St., S.F., 7-9 p.m. Individual and group process. Call 626-7000 for intake appointment.
- **Disabled Gay Men:** support group, Operation Concern, 1853 Market St., S.F., 6-7:30 p.m. Call 626-7000 for more information.
- **AIDS Interfaith Network of Contra Costa County:** meets at Diablo Valley Metropolitan Community Church, 2253 Concord Blvd., Concord, 7:30 p.m. Call 827-2960 for more information.
- **Antibody-Positive Drop-In Group:** 1853 Market St. (at Guerrero), 6 p.m. This weekly group is to assist individuals in exploring concerns around positive test results while supporting development of coping skills. Co-sponsored by UCSF AIDS Health Project and Operation Concern. Call 626-6637 for details.
- **AIDS/ARC Self-Healing and Support Group:** weekly meeting, Campus Ministry Building, USF, Golden Gate Avenue (near Parker), 7 p.m., free. Call 567-7126 or 339-1134.

The Bay Area Reporter welcomes organizations, businesses, and individuals to submit items for its weekly calendar. Placement in the calendar is free and the sole responsibility of the editors. Deadline: 5 p.m. on Thursdays.

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BAY AREA REPORTER ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

New Party Palaces

Young Gays Find Out There Are Plenty of Places to Dance

by Allen White

In the last few months, there have been dramatic changes in the partying habits of San Francisco's new generation of gays. The changes can be tied in with the birth of many new party palaces, most of which are one-night-a-week stands. You almost need a road map to make your way around.

The action begins on Wednesday night at the Boy Club at the I-Beam. Sanford Kellman and his crew have taken the concept and allowed it to clone on Friday and Saturday night at the old Music Hall on Larkin Street.

Dan DeLeon, who helped Kellman create the concept, noted, "Boy Club was started for a couple of reasons. There was a distinct line between that older generation and the generation which I am a part of. I felt we needed unity. There was unity in the older generation because of what was established in the gay community here in San Francisco. I wanted to start that up again for our generation."

The super event each week takes place at the Post Street Music Hall Boy Club. Each week hundreds of people are jammed in to dance under lasers, a multimedia light show, Brian Raffi's DJ efforts, and an incredible Randal Schiller sound system. A second level provides an adjacent room where oysters and other fresh fish delicacies are served.

On Thursday night, Page Hotel spins records for the Box at the Kennel Club on Divisadero. The bar has a certain underground flair and is one of the



The bar reflects all at the Stud.

(Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene)

hottest dance spots in the city. Hodel is one of the city's seasoned DJs who has run the gamut from the Folsom Street Fair to lesbian dances at Amelia's to political parties for Harry Britt. She has taken her skills and presents music designed for soulful dancing, and her efforts are attracting a crowd that is a profoundly unique lesbian/gay-man mix. The Box has been so successful that it, too, has branched to another night, and now jams on Saturdays.

On Friday nights, the Fraternity has become a combination of young, college, yuppie, and the

"I am going to be an 'A' gay" crowd. The bar is Scooters to many; others will remember it as Rags. The location is just south of Market on 4th Street. On Friday nights the place is packed with people. Most, like Jason Thompson, said, "I come here because I like to dance. I like to sweat."

Another newer addition to the Friday night party scene is the 900 Club. It is located on the main floor of the Merchandise Mart at Market and 9th Street. Entry is through a back door off of Jessie Street. It goes until 4 a.m.

Don Spradlin is one of the people responsible for the 900 Club. He says he originally planned it to be a once-a-month event. They were able to get the Merchandise Mart on a weekly basis, and the parties go under the umbrella title of the Young Men's Dance Club. Spradlin, currently commuting from Los Angeles, presents his concept as an extension of similar parties he has been successful at throwing at places like the old Hollywood Palace near Hollywood and Vine.

While these new party places emerge, the Stud continues on. Larry La-

Rue has been a disc jockey at the dance bar for over 14 years. "It's a part of my life," he says. Every weekend night there is always a line of people waiting to join the Stud crowd. LaRue comments, "I still see a lot of young gay men. I thought, with AIDS, there would be less gay men coming out. But there are lots. I see them every night, and they want to dance."

Giving the Stud dance crowd what they want has been his job. He says, "They follow the current trends pretty well. They like more of a beat these days, they like the rumble in the floor." Programming the right music is "like a wave coming in, I like to stay on top of the wave," he says.

Ray Hunt, 23, says, "I go out to dance at the Stud, and that's about it. I've been to the Boy Club at the I-Beam. It's like the I-Beam on a Sunday night, with a little less of the older group being there. More young people, but still warm and hot. I don't think they go out every night. I think you see a group looking for a younger set who have something in common. They have all been around the AIDS crisis, going through the same type situations."

As people dance at the Stud, they also are continuing their dancing at the Endup, which also endures. Additions at the Endup now include a rather impressive waterfall for patrons to watch while they stand out in the night air and cool off after dancing inside.

'Jerker' Finally Makes It to the Rhino Stage

by David Lambie

This week marks the long overdue return to Theatre Rhinoceros of the theater of Robert Chesley. Starting on Friday, the main stage at Rhino will be home for the next three weeks to Chesley's play *Jerker*, or *The Helping Hand: A Pornographic Elegy with Redeeming Social Value and a Hymn to the Queer Men of San Francisco in Twenty Telephone Calls, Many of Them Dirty*.

Jerker is a remarkable play in several respects. It plays very well even on the printed page and has already been published in a new anthology of gay and lesbian plays, *Out Front: Contemporary Gay and Lesbian Plays*, by Grove Press. Those familiar with Chesley will appreciate how this play tracks and builds upon preoccupations of previous plays, particularly the fantasy themes found in *Night Sweat* and *Stray Dog Story*.

In *Night Sweat* (1985), a large cast enacted Chesley's vision of a gay suicide club, inspired in part by a Robert Louis Stevenson story. Chesley concedes that the

inspiration for *Jerker*'s telephone sex fantasy relationship between two gay men was closer to his own life.

"It's about a friend of mine who had a sexual relationship over the telephone with an anonymous stranger," said Chesley. "The guy was hot and wonderful until he figured out who the other guy was: his pharmacist or optician. That shock of recognition was the end of the relationship! Now, they had connected on some level, connected to something real in both of them, which was now blocked by this visual information."

"It's my theory that so-called anonymous sex is exactly more personal in some cases than sex where you know your partner's name. You tell me your name, and I don't know anything about you except perhaps national origin, or political belief if you call yourself Sun Flower Child Person. But, if I have sex with you, I'm much deeper in much more intimate contact. This is a point that Edmund White makes in *States of Desire*. We've got to remember



David Murphy (l.) and Kelly Hill (r.) in the Theatre Rhino production of Robert Chesley's *Jerker*, directed by Joe Cappelletta.

(Photo: Savage Photography)

that our sexual contacts are strong wonderful human connections."

Robert Chesley feels that it is precisely these sexual connections that have been damaged during the AIDS epidemic. Chesley says that gay men have surrendered erotic territory that they must start reclaiming in safe and sensible ways, like the fantasy jackoff context dramatized in *Jerker*. The playwright even applauds the sneaky J/O that he detects is making its way back into the Castro Street scene.

In some ways, *Jerker* is Chesley's answer to another powerful AIDS-era play. While admiring the educational impact of Larry Kramer's *The Normal Heart*, Chesley admits to being annoyed by what he considers the play's anti-erotic line.

"I was so pissed off at *The Normal Heart*, which in many ways is such an important play," he said. "It's been all over the world, and it's caused many straight people to become thunderingly aware of the shit that

(Continued on page 37)

Love Songs to Three Beauties

I'm supposed to write about Neil Simon's enshrinement as a national monument with *Broadway Bound*, but can only chisel away at this supposed deity—the show is sorely lacking. And even the worthy and creatively mounted evening of one-act plays at the Julian Theatre, *Documents From Hell*, will have to wait a week while I write love songs for three men: Peter Hartman, Tommy Pace, and Rodney Price.

To me, they are heroes: three gay men always out there with their identity and energy; three gay flag-bearers so important to the flourishing of gay pride; three gay artists of innumerable and wonderful achievements; they each touched my heart many times in the last decade, but never more so than in the last week.

A little over a year ago, weakened from the excesses of living which were his habitual style, Peter Hartman asked his companion, Jonathan, for a characteristically splashy sendoff. When he died, Peter said, he wanted fireworks. He got them, too, for he died on the evening of July 4, 1988. Born on Valentine's Day in 1940, the symbols of his birth and death days—a heart and the colorful, fantastic, skyful of explosion—are a perfect picture of Peter Hartman.

He came to San Francisco in the late 1970s and founded the here-you-may-do-anything art gallery/performance space called 544 Natoma. I met and interviewed him there, became his admirer and friend.

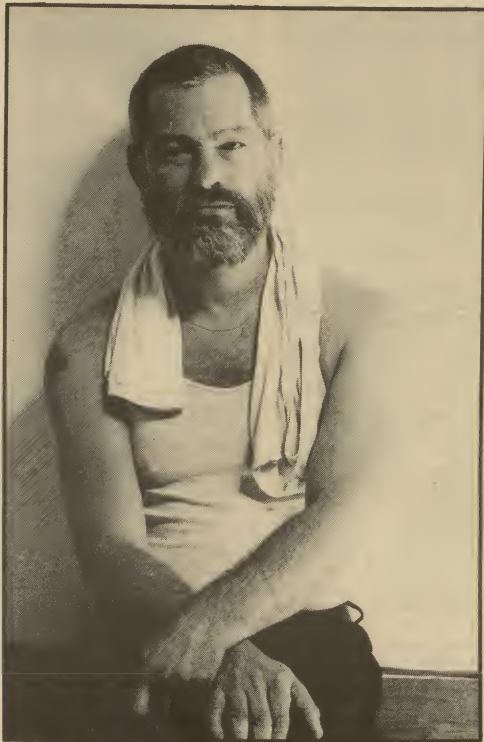
He hit New York when he was 20, composed scores for Frank O'Hara, joined the Living Theatre as musical coordinator, and premiered his Violin Concerto. At 21 he lived with the Massai in Africa, collecting and notating their music, ritual, and folktales (material eventually archived in the East African Conservatory of Music in Nairobi), and then traveled in India and Nepal.

At 22 his ballet for Glen Tetly was awarded the Prix des Nations in Paris, and he worked as Hans Werner Henze's assistant. At 23 he rejoined the Living Theatre to tour in Italy, France, and Germany. At 24 he was the youngest composer ever presented (at that time) at the Berlin Festival, and his Adagio for large orchestra was premiered at Musica Viva Concerts in Munich.

In 1965 he directed at Cafe Cino in New York, then returned to Italy for several years, where he produced chamber opera, experimental films, and poetry readings before combining them all to produce the first "Happenings" in Italy. Then he founded Il Gran Teatro, a highly awarded and pioneering touring company which still exists.

In the 1970s he studied at the C.G. Jung Institute in Zurich, performed at La Scala in Milan, composed a Requiem Mass and a Viola Sonata, ran a ranch and organized the Traveling Gypsy Theatre in Wales, studied Shaman ritual in the Himalayas, and presented concerts in Nepal and Kathmandu, and finally returned to California to found LAPIS, a musical consortium which synthesized his knowledge of world music of all periods.

You perhaps begin to understand Peter's imagination and energy. Words often failed his speeding mind. His hands would



Peter Hartman

(Photo: Rink)

fly and flutter, speaking mute volumes, while he'd growl, "Urrghhh," reducing unspoken paragraphs to a wild flash of hand and glint of eye as his tongue tripped over whatever idea it was his mind was speeding past.

A novelist friend depicted Peter, "booted, belted and bejocked...he knew everything about art, music, history, psychology, mythology, and cocaine and was still totally unemployable. [But] Peter lived only for art, travel, and sex. He preferred smelling like a bear to smelling like cologne."

"He was a brilliant, nervous,

hypochondriacal Buddhist biker with strong Jungian leanings who hummed Faure and Scriabin at 90 mph. He spoke perfect English, French, Italian, and German with exactly the same accent, and at such a clip that he often tripped over words...masticating them into mush while his hands gesticulated wildly." At such moments, Peter would stammer, growl, and then surrender, summing up his ideas, the world, and all its art and music and beautiful boys with some simple truth: "Well, it's all too wonderful."

And it was so wonderful because he knew it was and made it

so. Here are a few of the things he caused to happen at 544 Natoma: the San Francisco debut of Philip-Dimitri Galas, when the author himself played that ultimate drag queen piece, *Mona Rogers Before She Ever Got Famous*; the filming of portions of James Broughton's *Devotions*; the local debut of Ethyl Eichelberger; a benefit with cafe society entertainer Steve Ross; the premiere of Lea Delaria's play, *Fantasy in Flesh*; Cal Yeoman's *Sunsets*; an all-male *The Maids*; an experimental staging of *The Ballad of Reading Gaol*; Michael McClure's *The Feast*; a unique word and dance collaboration of Robert Chesley and Christopher Beck; performance art by Mark I. Chester (who bound Peter to the piano as he played with a labyrinth of knotted rope); the 69th birthday beatification of James Broughton; the first performances of the Noh Oratorio Society; performers like Whoopi Goldberg (before she was widely known), Lulu, John Ponyman, and the incomparable Esmerelda; films by Marc Huestis and

Jean Genet; photographs by Nina Glaser and Jim Stewart; rock concerts and punk rituals; readings by more poets than I can name, except to recall the infamous night when Robert Duncan performed a complete striptease; and all this while each and every event was painted live in progress by Lou Rudolph. And there was music—music of every sort and every country, old, new, and not yet invented. And then there were evenings that combined all of the above and defied description.

No wonder Peter had to retire for a rest to Guerneville, where in recent years he composed several scores for Christopher Beck ballets and was slowly devoured by the energy, both congenial and recreational, which coursed through his veins, weakening his liver, and ultimately causing his death.

Peter Hartman was a genius. A crazed genius. There aren't many people as crazy as Peter, and there're even fewer who would act out those imaginings the way Peter did. There were so many

(Continued on page 37)

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'The Mother of Us All'

Stein/Thomson Opera at City College

by William Francis

A hen screams when she sees an eagle, but she is only afraid for her children, men are afraid for themselves, that is the real difference between men and women.

These are the words of Gertrude Stein as sung by America's foremost feminist, Susan B. Anthony. They are from Act II of Virgil Thomson's 1947 opera, *The Mother of Us All*.

City Summer Opera is presenting a rare opportunity to see this work, which is seldom performed on the West Coast. Five performances will be given, beginning at 8 p.m. on July 14 at City College of San Francisco, Phelan Avenue at Judson. Subsequent performances will be on July 15 and 16, also at 8 p.m., and July 17 at 7 p.m. There will be a matinee on July 16 at 2:30 p.m.

This opera, the second of only two collaborative efforts of Stein and Thomson, was first performed in 1947, 13 years after their *Four Saints in Three Acts* and less than one year after Stein's death.

The subject of the opera is Susan B. Anthony, whose initial claim to fame was her powerful and shocking (for her time) efforts in bringing women's voices out of the kitchens of America and into the exclusively male political foray. (Surely there were jokes about needing larger voting booths to accommodate their voluminous skirts.) She was a subject that fit Stein's own feminist ideals like a glove, and Anthony's words are sheer delight with Stein as their creator.

Surely Stein would have had mixed emotions about Susan B. Anthony's resurgence into the limelight when she became the first woman to appear on an American coin. She would have had a lot to say about male cowardice in using a woman as a blatant admission of America's "shrinking" dollar. Men had always represented the world's strongest economy on its currency and coin. Having undermined its value, they were quick to hide their embarrassment behind a woman's image, even though women had never been given the opportunity, perhaps, to avoid or lessen the financial disaster that has occurred.

Virgil Thomson, one of the most perceptive and influential music critics of his time, enjoyed the same good fortune of having Stein as librettist as did Mozart with da Ponte or Richard Strauss with von Hoffmannsthal. This piece reflects the perfect harmony of their ideal union.

He said: "My theory was that if a text is set correctly for the sound of it, the meaning will take care of itself. And the Stein texts, for prosodizing in this way, were manna. I had no sooner put to music... one short Stein text than I knew I had opened a door." He even sounds a little like her there.

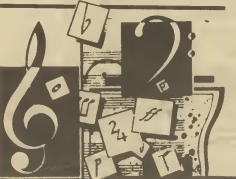
Through that door enter such chronologically unlikely participants in the story as Ulysses S. Grant, John Adams, Daniel Webster, Lillian Russell, and Stein and Thomson themselves as narrators.

As a young girl, Gertrude Stein's lifelong companion Alice B. Toklas had met Susan B. Anthony. Her esteem for her was such that it must have made a deep impression on Stein. The character of Anne, Anthony's companion in the opera, is obviously a parallel to Stein's and Toklas' own association.

The Mother of Us All is a singer's opera. Thomson's reverent sensitivity to Stein's words make it so. He allows fully for their clarity and expression. The orchestration is a subtle, integral support of the voices, allowing a comfortable shell out of which the text can be clearly enunciated, neither losing nor pandering to Stein's rhythms.

The title role will be sung alternately by sopranos Lisa Lindstrom and Lorene Spain. Bass Richard Wagner will sing Trinity Moses. Eileen Morris and Jeff Swart are Stein and Thomson. Musical director Norman Wong will conduct, and the performances are staged by David Parr.

The Mother of Us All
City Theatre
City College of San Francisco
Phelan at Judson
July 14-17
Tickets: Call 239-3132
or Ticketron at 392-7469



Vicki Dello Joio (l.) with Mattie.

Mime Isn't Everything

by Dianne Gregory

Vicki Dello Joio is a polished mime and actress. Her body moves with the fluid motions of the well-disciplined artist.

And her show at the Studio at Theatre Rhinoceros (through July 24), *A Mime's Eye View*, is thoughtful and imaginative. But it doesn't quite gel.

It got off to a rocky beginning the night I saw it because the first piece, "The Magician (From *Medea*, a Poetic Mask/Mime Play)," was cancelled, and the show started with "Mattie Speaks," in which the puppet Mattie calls for questions from the audience. While this piece might work just fine in the middle of the show, to begin with audience repartee is death. I loved the puppet costume Dello Joio wore, but Mattie did not speak eloquently at all.

The second piece in the show, "Love Is a Blessing," contained more pure mime than the rest of *A Mime's Eye View*. Guided by almost-offstage narration, Dello Joio becomes a bird.

The next four pieces, "The Set Up," "The Catwoman's Landing in Golden Gate Park," "A Mime's Dilemma," and "The Dream of the Old Man Who Lived With the Sea," all use a sort of grass-like platform. My favorite was "The Catwoman's Landing in Golden Gate Park," in which Dello Joio uses a mask at knee level and a tiny, squeaky voice to portray an E.T.-like alien who finds Diet Coke most reprehensible indeed. Maybe Mattie should have come in here somewhere.

The last piece in the first act,

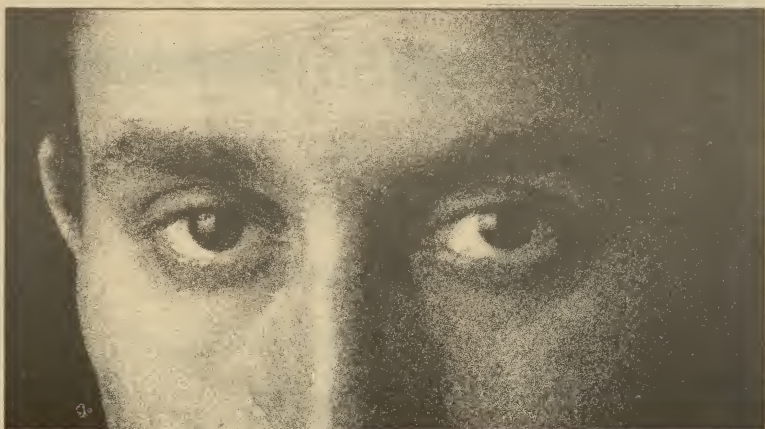
"Heart-Filled," is the most regrettable. It is a poem read by Dello Joio and her lover Jacqueline Elizabeth Letalien, a paean to their love. The poem is so personal that, listening to it, I felt like a voyeur in a room filled with other unwitting voyeurs. It was an uneasy feeling, and nobody clapped at the end, not an auspicious ending.

Act II is comprised of only one piece, "Dad (Nee Papa)," and seems to be the exorcism of a ghost. Dello Joio portrays her father (composer Norman Dello Joio) and her younger self as caricatures, one strutting and posturing, the other simpering and whining. You learn more than you ever wanted to know about Norman Dello Joio and his relationship with his daughter, just as you learn more than you ever wanted to know about Vicki Dello Joio and her relationship with her lover in "Heart-Filled."

What does it all mean? Were we supposed to learn something about ourselves and our world from *A Mime's Eye View*, or was the purpose mere entertainment? The individual pieces are so disjointed that there could have been no unifying concept.

But there is talent here, and there is certainly a myriad of ideas. If Dello Joio can figure out what gives purpose to these pieces, she will have something.

★ ★ ½
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Busy (And Wet) Weekend to Help AIDS Charities

Friends for Life and Young Men's Dance Club have collaborated to present a special weekend to benefit the AIDS Emergency Fund and Project Open Hand on Friday through Sunday, July 15-17.

The weekend will consist of three events. The first is "Splash-Dance," which will be held on Friday evening, July 15. The dance will be held from 9 p.m. to 4 a.m. at Club 900, located at 32 Ninth St. (at Market).

On Saturday, July 16, there will be a pool party/tea dance at the Oasis Club, located on 11th at

Folsom. The party will feature margaritas.

On Sunday, the sixth annual Cache Canyon raft trip is scheduled. The raft trip is sold out and promises to be as much a hit as in the past.

Friends for Life is a local community service organization which has staged numerous fundraisers to benefit AIDS support services and research.

The Young Men's Dance Club is new to San Francisco, but has established itself as the premier partner producer in Los Angeles and Laguna Beach.

Tickets are \$20 in advance, \$25 on the day of the event. They are available at All American Boy, New York Man, All Headlines locations, and at the door. ●

The Joffrey in Transition

During the scant three months since the death of its founding director, the Joffrey Ballet has played five American cities, opened Italy's Spoleto Festival, and taped two *Dance in America* programs in Denmark. San Francisco is the last stop before a four-week company layoff, and though the dancers look fresher than the above schedule might forecast, the performances thus far have summoned our forbearance in some unexpected ways.

The much-publicized reconstruction of the 1913 Nijinsky/Stravinsky *Rites of Spring*—the kind of historic revival only the Joffrey would attempt—will be performed here for the first time tonight and repeat for four more performances over the weekend. Meanwhile, the company has offered its familiar mixed bills in which half the ballets are the work of founding resident choreographer Gerald Arpino, who has taken over the post of artistic director. The other ballets run the gamut from the 1844 *La Vivandiere Pas de Six* to such contemporary works as Laura Dean's mesmeric *Force Field*.

Broad eclecticism is no longer the Joffrey's exclusive domain; virtually every major American company has embraced Robert Joffrey's idea, revolutionary 30 years ago, of mixing its in-house products with unusual revivals and commissions from the newest choreographers. Our own Oakland Ballet has half a dozen early 20th century revivals in its repertory, and even as the Joffrey was presenting James Kudelka's *Concerto Grosso*, the only new ballet of the season, Kudelka was across the street making a new work for the San Francisco Ballet.

Gerald Arpino's ballets are both the most exhilarating and the most perishable of the Joffrey's staples, relying on sensation and sensuality, keyed to fashionable sensibilities and, too often, dependent on the particular personalities of the dancers on whom they were made.

Suite Saint-Saens, revived after several years' absence, has all the trademarks of Arpino's particular brand of neoclassicism: split-second partnering maneuvers, dancers flying on and off the stage in *grands jetes* or, almost as often, carried away in precarious *pressages* by their stalwart partners. Slow, monumental *pas de deux* and *pas de trois* occupy the two inner movements, danced to lush, sonorous reorchestrations of gorgeous, unrelated pieces of Saint-Saens chamber music. *Round of Angels* also remains beautiful, its sentimentality evoked by the Adagietto from Mahler's Fifth Symphony, balanced by an undeniable visual grandeur. (*Round of Angels* was dedicated to Jim Howell, a former Joffrey dancer and, later, resident of San Francisco who died of AIDS in 1982.)

Arpino's novelty pieces seem to have been made with wholly different priorities in mind—either the exploitation of a particular dancer's abilities or some hot topic Arpino may have dared himself to stage—and these don't always reheat successfully. *The Clowns*, a disorganized pastiche of pop theatrical devices from the days of the mid-1960s anti-war protests, was seen as a period revival last season and received indul-

gently. On a second viewing this season, neither the giant plastic balloons nor the flamboyant virtuosity of lead dancer Edward Stierle distracts us from the work's threadbare structure and dated sociopolitical agenda.

Arpino's comic *pas de deux*, *Valentine*, suffers similarly, but miscasting is its real downfall. It was revived last year for veteran ballerina Beatriz Rodriguez in partnership with David Palmer, whose fine sense of humor and muscular acuity was well matched with Rodriguez' dynamic presence. Since Palmer left to join Miami City Ballet, the role has been given to Glenn Edgerton, whose high-strung sensibilities—rather like Leslie Howard with a sexy body—seem thoroughly discomfited by the assignment. Few of the choreographic punchlines are still intact.

Edgerton and Dawn Caccamo, the most frequently paired dancers in the present company, seem to grow paler, rather than richer, in their continuing partnership, like dutiful high-school sweethearts who marry too early and



Dawn Caccamo and Glenn Edgerton in Gerald Arpino's *Reflections*. (Photo: H. Migdoll)

dissipate their romance almost before it begins. In Arpino's *Reflections*, they merely cooperate in a *pas de deux* that should, in an inspired performance, twist our hearts with its tender passion. Edgerton and Caccamo never appear more than conscientious in their work together, like the violent duet from *Love Songs*, which he dances with either Charlene Gehm or the fabulous Julie Janus.

Oddly enough, it is in the imported ballets that the Joffrey dancers seem most distinguished. The corps women invested themselves in exacting intricacies of Sir Frederick Ashton's *The Dream* as though they'd been waiting for just such a challenge. Leslie Carothers, wearing a curly blonde wig that made her look like Goldie Hawn, seemed to understand the subtle ironies of her role as Titania; she and Ashley Wheeler, as Oberon, danced with considerable amplitude and style. *La Vivandiere Pas de Six* showcases the company's most squarely classical techniques, among which those of Edward

(Continued on page 45)

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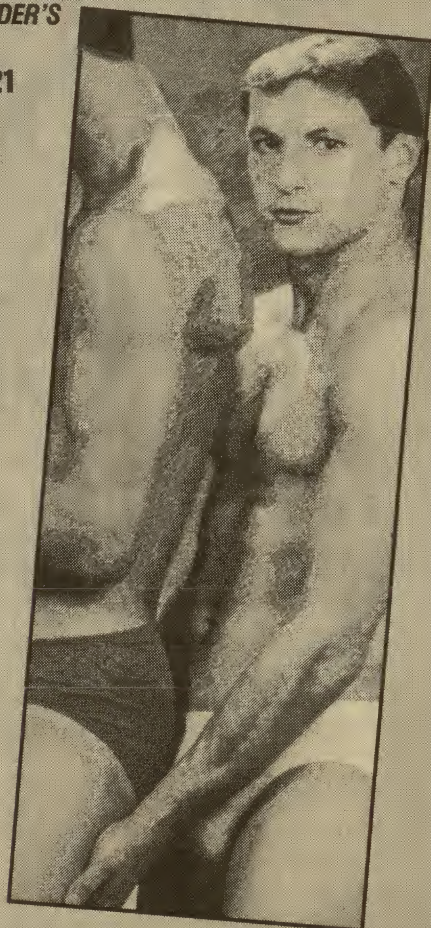
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Toujours l'Amour

During the first act of Stephen Sondheim's *Follies*, a French woman by the name of Solange Lafitte grabs the spotlight and explains to the audience that "Peking has rickshaws, New Orleans jazz, but... ah! Pree!" Whether embodied in the statuesque grandeur of a Folies Bergere showgirl or the wry professionalism of the street-walkers who make up the chorus of *Irma la Douce*, French women have always been looked upon as exceptionally sexual creatures. Some (like Offenbach's Grand Duchess of Gerolstein) are merrily lampooned for their lusty appetites; others (like Puccini's courtesan Magda) live a life of bittersweet romance while trapped like fragile swallows in the gilded cages of their amorous keepers.

Unfortunately, many of the French women who are found in the operatic literature fall victim to extremely unpleasant deaths. In *The Dialogues of the Carmelites*, Poulenc's Blanche de la Force gets her head chopped off

by the French Revolution's hungry guillotine. Giordano's Maddalena de Coigny suffers a similar fate in *Andrea Chenier*. The heroine of Puccini's *Il Tabarro*, Giorgetta, is stabbed to death by her jealous husband, and Verdi's Violetta dies of consumption. Adriana Lecouvreur (a leading actress at the Comedie Francaise) dies from sniffing poisoned violets; Puccini's Manon Lescaut croaks out her last words in the "deserts" of Louisiana.

Are these women being punished for their sexuality? Or are they victims of a male-dominated society which can only accept women as whores, nuns, and obediently submissive wives, instead of letting them rule their own destinies? Recently, as I watched two of France's most famous operatic heroines bite the dust, I couldn't help but wonder how they might have fared had they lived in a more enlightened society.

Puccini's Mimi coughed herself to death a few more times as Opera Theatre of St. Louis



Manon (Carolann Page) listens as Des Grieux (Mark Thomsen) reads her the letter in which he asks his father for permission to marry his true love in Massenet's *Manon*.

mounted a new production of *La Boheme* this spring. Like many critics, my initial reaction to the thought of sitting through yet another performance of *La Boheme* was far from orgasmic, but I've learned never to take OTSL's approach to an operatic warhorse for granted. This time the enterprising regional company, which has become the pride of Missouri (and which performs on a thrust stage with three-quarter-round seating) genuinely surprised me.

Updated to 1908—with an exceptionally fluid unit set by Robert Perdziola, costumes by Marie Anne Chiment, and lighting by Peter Kaczowski—OTSL delivered a *Boheme* of impressive artistic quality and dramatic impact. Much of the production's success was due to the work of stage director Linda Brovsky, who, rather than relying on standard pieces of "Boheme shtick," carefully rethought many of the tiny moments which audiences and producers tend to take for granted in what is a rather delicately constructed opera.

The set change between Acts I and II, which was performed in front of the audience, bustled with a surprising amount of energy that helped to frame the ensuing drama. Indeed, from that point on, the production gained a rare dramatic momentum.

Minus the overwhelming sense of spectacle to be found in Franco Zeffirelli's production of *La Boheme* (now permanently ensconced in the Met's repertory), Brovsky's Cafe Momus scene earned top honors for the way in which every little piece of theatrical motivation and stage business was carefully timed so that, as the music propelled the story forward, each dramatic moment fell neatly and precisely into line, like a set of dominoes in motion. The Loretto-Hilton Theatre's thrust stage added a new, intimate, and quite wonderful dimension to the final moments of Act III, while Brovsky's staging of the final scene avoided cloyingly sentimental stereotypes and, instead, drew a surprisingly genuine emotional response from the audience.

If the cast were less than perfect (Don Bernardini's Rodolfo sounded a bit under par, and Kallen Esperian's Mimi occasionally showed moments of vocal strain on top), their ensemble work was certainly noteworthy. I was particularly impressed by Gaetan Laperriere's Marcello and Terry Hodges' cameo appearance as a genuinely embarrassed Alcindoro. Kurt Link's Colline and Eric McCluskey's Schaunard lent strong support to their fellow Bohemians, while Katherine Terrell's attractively sung and acted Musetta had a curious strength all its own. Although conductor Hal France, who rushed through Puccini's score like a runaway locomotive, occasionally drowned out his singers, the overall impression of OTSL's *La Boheme* was one of tremendous vitality and dramatic cohesiveness.

Not a great performance, but certainly one which strived to meet—and came close to fulfilling—an exceptionally high set of artistic standards.

SACRE BLEUI

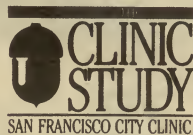
If the Houston Grand Opera's production of *Manon* (originally
(Continued on page 45)

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Mr. November

Wonderful World, Beautiful People

Thank God! for understanding editors. Here it is, 0230 hours Monday morning, 11 July, and as far as I'm concerned, the weekend is over. Instead of traipsing through the weekend from Thursday to Monday, let's do it in reverse!

Monday night, 11 July, the carling cast from *Cats* performed before a most appreciative audience at Bimbo's for the AIDS Emergency Fund. Young, extremely talented, and dedicated, they got more than one rousing ovation throughout the evening. Performing excerpts from *Phantom*, *Express*, and other Broadway triumphs, the pace was rapid, beautiful, and absorbing. With so much talent in such young personages, one wonders, how perfect must you be to make it in theater?

Besides a capacity crowd, the lineup of auctioneers was equally dazzling. Consider Sharon McNight, Louise Molinari, Examiner "columnist of the people" Rob Morse, and Joanne Laugh-In Worley! Danny Williams, one of this year's honorary co-chairs, MC'd the event flawlessly, and Mike Darling, whoever he is, made this fabulous, rainbow-colored quilt by hand, and it was auctioned off to the tune of \$4,000. (Just that one item!) A lunch with Glenn Terrio went for \$100, and the board of directors of the AIDS Emergency Fund presented appreciation plaques to Mark Abramson and Jim Cvitanich for their *Men Behind Bars* triumph for AEF last February.

Sunday, July 10, Theatre Rhino had a beer bust at the S.F. Eagle. One of the scenes from the brilliant Robert Chesley's *Jerker* was performed by Kelly Hill and that hunk, Will Harde. The show, directed by Joe Cappetta, opens this Friday, 15 July, at the Rhino, through Aug. 9. Don't miss it.

Later on Sunday night, a horde of the musical faithful converged at Dreamland to help David Diebold celebrate the publication and release of his magnificent tome, *Tribal Rites*, a running anthology of the entire music scene in San Francisco during the '70s, those halcyon days of drugs, disco, dish, and daring. David was signing the book most of the evening, and the mega-stars of the era were on hand, including Sylvester, Jo Carroll, Johnny Hedges, Marty Blecman, Paul Parker, Frank Loverde, and Samantha Samuels, to name only a few. It was high energy! Nostalgia was in abundance.

Tribal Rites (Audiosis Publications) is on sale everywhere and well worth the price, if you ever want to understand the energy and international wave created by San Francisco's musical giants. I read as much of the book as I could Sunday night, and I was reduced to tears reading about the tremendous, frantic energy of Patrick Cowley and all those he inspired to outdo themselves. Please, please read this book. A fascinating gamut of the way we were before the horrors of AIDS



Mr. November on the Bare Chest Calendar (r.) with the first runnerup.
(Photo: Scott Martin)

descended upon us and took away our most treasured creative artists. Thanks, David, you're a winner!

Saturday night was trap-a-tourist time: They're here in droves, and all eager to explore Faghdad by the Bay, with plenty of eager guides to help them learn San Franciscese!

Thursday night, Mr. November 1989 was chosen for the Eagle's Bare Chest Calendar, and another riotous night careened at 12th and Harrison. Sharon McNight and Hamburger Mary's heavenly head honcho Rose Christiansen joined in with City Swing maestro/genius Wayne Love to choose a 6'1" Virgo by the name of Ken McMullen for the November spot. Franklin Lim was the first runnerup, and it was another one of those evenings to remember. The final competition to find Mr. December 1989 will take place next Thursday, 21 July. If you think you've got prize pees, get on down there. Gail Wilson will join in with Hamburger Mary's manager Dale to judge. Don't miss it!

This weekend looks just jam-packed with goodies. Remember Splash Dance? They're at it again this entire weekend, with 100 percent of the proceeds going to Open Hand and AIDS Emergency Fund. Friday it's Splash Dance at Club 900 (32 Ninth St.), \$20 in advance or \$25 at the door. Saturday afternoon, 16 July, it's a pool party at the Oasis with margaritas and dancing from 1500 to 1900, \$5 in advance, \$10 at the door. Their big canyon raft trip on Sunday is sold out, but if it's anything like

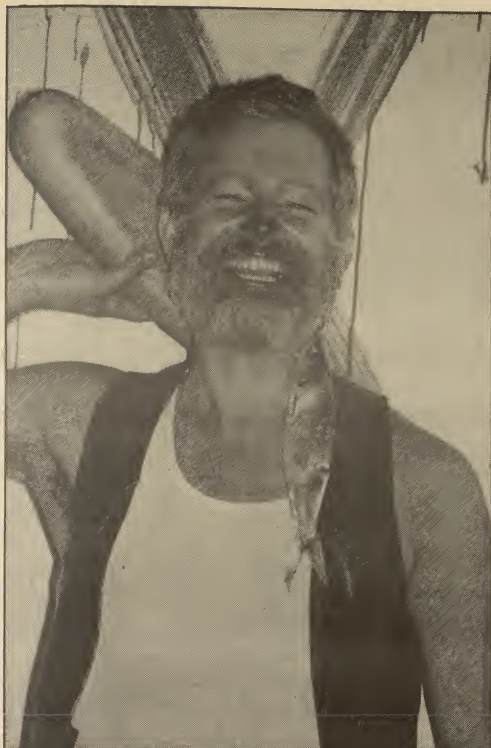
the previous five years, YMDC Splash '88 will make lots of dough.

Tatiana is throwing another drag show at the Mint on Saturday night, 16 July, at 2100, for the AIDS Emergency Fund, with Inga, Davida, Phoebe Planters, and Mz P.

Sunday will be real busy. The seventh annual Blessing of the Bikes takes place at the Eagle promptly at 1400 hours. MCC good guys Jim Sandmire and Jim Mitulski will officiate, with Harry Harkness and his boundless energy directing the whole thing. It's for bikers, buddy riders, old and new bikes, previously blessed or never blessed. Lots of leather, lots of bikes, lots of hot male riders and buddies. Don't miss it.

Shortly thereafter, at 1500 hours, the S.F. Band Foundation will utilize every inch of space for the big band sound of City Swing with Gail Wilson headlining, along with the S.F. Tap Troupe and Vocal Minority. Remember the Cream Sisters from *Men Behind Bars* last February? That act will never die, so they'll be back, too. The price is right, only \$7. Get your cookies down there for this one. It's from 1500 to 1800, of course!

Sunday the Sombazaar opens for the first time, too. (In case you don't know it, "SOMBA" means "South of Market Business Association.") The bazaar is at 8th and Townsend in the Showplace Square parking lot and is a marketplace with lots of innovative creative selling. It's a dream fulfillment for Gary Walker, the creative energy force. They say Sundays will never be the same.



The late Peter Hartman at the closing of 544 Natoma.
(Photo: R. Pruzan)

Sunday night (we're still South of Market) we will all be at Esta Noche, will we not? It's the first annual Queen of the Universe Pageant, with 25 contestants, not to mention the entertainment (Lola, Javier, Tatum, and Desiree). Cash prizes and trophies will be awarded after the judges make their decision. I've never judged one of these, but I'll join Leticia the Taco Tycoon, Janet Corey, Lino Bell, and Ito Curata to help pick a winner. The whole thing starts at 2000 hours, and get there early. This one will be packed to the rafters. Tony and Manuel are all aflutter already. Who will be the Queen of the Universe?

I almost forgot to mention Mike and Mike's bed and breakfast party in Foresthill, CA. It's all so confusing (the flyer someone sent me). I suggest you call Mike Mears and/or Mike Newman at (916) 367-3023. I don't know if this is an orgy or a Bible class!

Last weekend, in faraway Charlotte, NC, they held the Mr. Mid-Atlantic Drummer Contest, and from all I hear, it made our Mr. Northern California Drummer contest look pitiful. It was held at the Oak Tree Inn in Charlotte, with more than a dozen contestants. The judges were IML Mike Pereyra, Dowager IML Colt T., artist Bill (the Hun), Mitch Davis, former Mr. Drummer Steve Reiswig, and his lover Ray Woods. Kevin Scott, Mr. Gay USA, MC'd the weekend-long affair, and it drew almost a thousand people—and it made money. Are you reading this, Up Your Alley honchos?

The winner was Rick Turner, sure to be in the winning circle in the finals to be held here. Needless to say, no one from here took a camera, and I imagine the reason Ms. Stewart didn't go is because he dares not venture south of the Leather/Levixon Line. The winner was sponsored by the Bike Stop in Philadelphia (it is a mid-Atlantic state, you know), the same bar that produced Scott Tucker, a former International Mr. Leather. And by the way, according to the press release I just received, it is no longer just the Mr. Drummer Contest. It is now (ta tum!) International Mr. Drummer! I can't wait until they start International Ms. Drummer!

Incidentally, the International Ms. Leather people had what I can only describe as a closed meeting and picked new members for their board of directors this past Monday night. Oh, boy, Sky will be on my ass again! I was informed that Colt Thomas' worthy body now graces one of the chairs of the governing body. Flawless! If press releases or invitations were sent out, mine must have gotten lost in the mail. No wonder Gayle Rubin got so ticked off last year!

Memorial services will be held this Saturday, 16 July, for Richard Ruggiero at Comiskey-Roche Funeral Home at 1400 hours. I was asked not to write about his passing away a couple of weeks ago, because his close friends wanted to do it on their own. I can say I loved Richard like a brother; he brought joy to many people in the community, and he was a team worker: responsive, caring, compassionate, and loyal. His handsome countenance graced the environs South of Market, mainly at the Powerhouse Bar. He was beautiful in looks, body, mind, and soul. He'll never be forgotten.

I am also sad to report the passing of another South of Market mainstay, Peter Hartman. Peter was an inspiring force behind many a "happening" event South of the Slot. His encouragement of art, theater, conceptual events, and love gave immense impetus to the burgeoning art scene in the Folsom area. He was acquainted with international luminaries of all artistic persuasions, and his little gallery was a "must" in its heyday, where drama, dance, music, art, and fantasy thrived. Peter was liberated to grace the heavens with his gifted being on 4 July. Memorial services were pending at my deadline.

And now for the real dish:

The UPS driver who was embarrassed while unloading a crate of butt plums on Market Street two weeks ago is willing to swear in court that it did indeed happen as reported here. Sheesh! Whatever happened to everyone's sense of humor?

Another new safe-sex toy/appa-
(Continued on next page)



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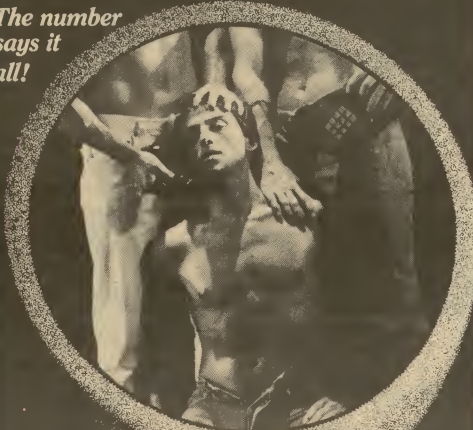
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Tribal Rites author David Diebold (second from left) with Shawn Benson (l.) and other stars of disco at Dreamland Sunday night.
(Photo: Marcus)

Marcus

(Continued from previous page)

ratus/necessity—you'll love it! They're called Stubs (or "Stubbies" by seasoned users), and they're mini condoms that fit only on the head of your sexual apparatus. Yes, they stretch to fit over the head of it, if you *must* know! They retail for only 25 cents. That's right, one quarter of a dollar, two bits, dos pesetas. They're available exclusively at Mr. S (at their new 14th and Folsom location) and at Mercury Mail Order, across the street from the Jaguar on 18th. From what I've been told, they're exactly what persons of the oral persuasion have all been waiting for. Check it out—remember, they're only 25 cents!

For your calendar: 29 July is the Leather Daddy Contest; applications are available at the S.F. Eagle from any bartender. August 19 is Tattoo Fetish Night, with Mad Dog in person doing a demo and a parade of tattooed hunks. Stay tuned.

Leather Weekend at the river (hi, Joy!) is next weekend, 22-24 July, and I'll have a complete run-down on that next week. International Mr. Drummer is Saturday, 24 Sept., at the Galleria; S.F. Leather Week, 21-25 Sept.; Dore Alley Fair is Sunday, 7 Aug. Also coming, Folsom Street Fair in

September. And next March, Mr. Leather of California! Where? Here, of course!

And what about the ingenuity of our boys? Hank Sterba report that a dude out in GG Park (near the windmills, of course) totes around two frisbees, but is never seen playing the game. He uses 'em for knee pads while eating fresh "fruit"!

Keep your legs crossed; stay out of the bushes; wear your rubbers; support the AIDS fundraisers; and never lie about your age. See you next week!

Larry Hough 'Deidre'



(Photo: R. Pruzan)

The Imperial Family of San Francisco lost another of its members on July 4, 1988.

Princess to the Pegasus Deidre became a member of the family when appointed by Emperor XIV A.N. Matthew Brown at the end of his reign. Having run for empress, Deidre was appointed in recognition of exemplary community work on behalf of many of our charities, but most predominately AIDS charities. Deidre now joins Karl Stewart, who left us last year, also a casualty of AIDS. They were joined together

in June 1985 in an elaborate ceremony at Metropolitan Community Church.

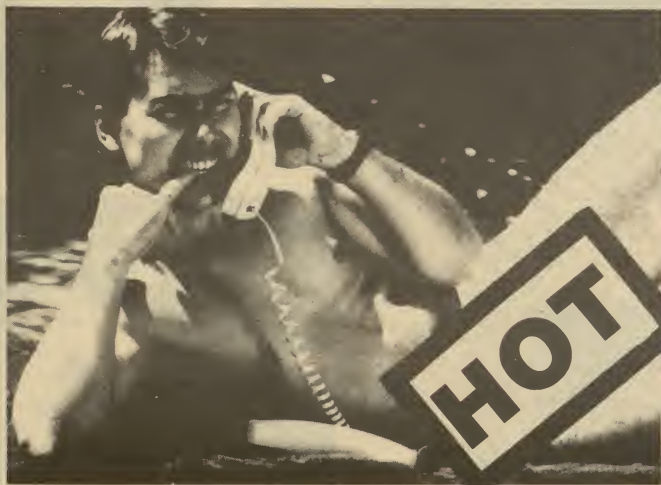
Deidre was Larry Hough, a member of the San Francisco leather community who was as much at home in full leather at the S.F. Eagle as in full gown and tiara at the Galleria. He was from Greensburg, Pennsylvania.

Deidre was not with us nearly long enough and will be sorely missed.

A memorial service will be held Saturday, July 16, at 2 p.m. at the MCC on Belcher Street. ●

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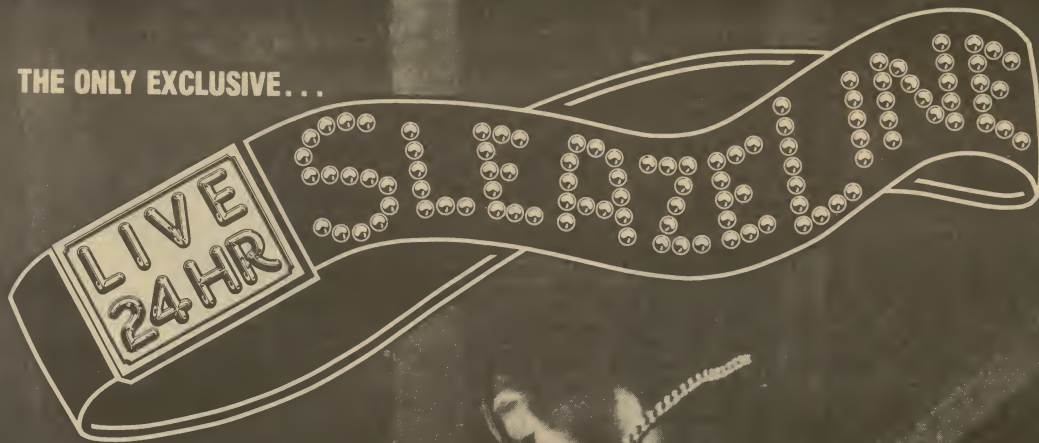
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Details, Details, and More Details

Did I ever really go into de-
tail about my latest trip to
Florida? Probably not, so
I will at this time, before I get into
the big stories around town, for
which I am at a loss. That's why
you have to hear about Florida.

My first weekend was spent in
Miami, where the bars are the
pits, if you can find them. I did
find Uncle Charlie's South,
where I saw an interesting mix-
ture of interesting people. Then
there was the El Carol, a bar I
knew would open early (11 a.m.,
anyway), and it was decorated in
shades of turquoise with un-
framed beefcake posters on the
walls. I truly felt at home. I con-
templated going to a bar called
Cheers, but when I approached
the front door, there was a sign
proclaiming they had a dress
code, and since I didn't take one
with me this trip, I knew my
chances for admission to that
club were nil.

Then I was rescued from
Miami and whisked across the
state to my usual stomping
grounds of St. Petersburg, where
the men are drag queens, and
vice-versa. I always manage to
enjoy myself and always find the
natives to be more than friendly,
especially if you happen to be the
new face in town. I can only par-
tially get away with that, seeing
that I am there at least twice a
year. I am getting to be a bit
notorious there.

Where does a glamorous S.F.
type like myself hang out while in
St. Pete? That would have to be
the Club (original name) at 1113
Central Ave., where they have
drag shows, male strippers, danc-
ing, and a fun cast of characters.
Rodger, who is my favorite bar-
tender when he isn't in a dress,
was Miss Closet Ball a few years
back, and of course you know
what they say about once they're
in a dress. Yep, you guessed it.

The beaches along the Gulf
Coast are quite nice, and there is
always a good selection of hunks
and cuties to feast your eyes on.
The gay beach in St. Pete is Passe
Grille, and they even have a beer
and wine bar called the Lighted
Tree, where afternoon socializing
is a must. A trip to any part of
Florida should be avoided be-
tween the months of July through
September, unless you like to boil
on your vacation. Also, it is inex-
pensive in the Tampa-St. Pete
area. With a rented car, I aver-
aged expenses of only \$55 a day.
Smirnoff was about \$1.50 tops, so
that helped my budget.

I haven't really slowed down
since coming back to the
city, what with the parade
weekend right after. Then, for the
4th, there were several Coits who
were guests of Larry Hughes up
at Dutch Flats (which is between
Sacramento and Reno), and we
lounged around the pool, drink-
ing until the evening, when we
would have cocktails. Had we got-
ten up earlier on the 4th, we
would have gone into town to see
the parade, which everyone in
town was in—all five of them.

Next it was a short jaunt to the
Russian River. We stayed at the
Paradise Cove, a nice spot, and
also went to the Rainbow Cattle
Co. for their "Spin the Wheel"
night on Thursday. Sonny Cline
and Cath, were the bartenders,
and yes, Sonny still makes me
drool, especially when I remem-
ber his motor oil routine at the
Eagle one Sunday afternoon.
J.K., Steven, Danny "Gomez"
Wong, and I enjoyed the festi-



Lola Lust and friends at the parade celebration. (Photo: Rink)

ties and drinks, and I even got a
chance to spin the wheel, win-
ning five drinks. That kept me
busy for all of two minutes.

I ran into Alan Johnson, who
asked me to say hello to Randy
Johnson next time I saw him. I
figure this way is probably the
quickest.

At this point you have most
likely figured out that I wasn't
fooling when I said I was short on
info.

A big welcome to the Satyr
M.C., who are arriving this Fri-
day evening around midnight, by
bus, at the S.F. Eagle. I would
have done it in military time, but
Mr. Marcus won't teach me.
Those men will be visiting for the
weekend, and I think my friend
from Glendale will be with them.
I think some of them might be in
need of overnight accommoda-
tions.

It seems like my friend Wayne
Friday and his friend John Moli-
nari can't even enjoy a quiet
lunch. There were quite a few
City Hall types trying to pick up
on the conversation they were
having at Max's the other day.

The AIDS Walk has consis-
tently raised big bucks for AIDS
and deserves all the credit it gets.
However, I think that if you are
going to make a pledge to the
Walk, you should do so by mak-
ing it to someone you know or by
contacting the offices directly.
The reason for this is that some
users in this town could use this
as a perfect scam to get money in
their own pockets. Some of the
ones I have seen soliciting in
front of Walgreens are a bit sus-
picious, and I know, when I
donate, I want to make damn sure
my money goes where it is sup-
posed to!

A big thank you in advance to
the organizers and participants
of this year's AIDS Walk.

As an added note, Tatiana sug-
gests you write a check, instead
of cash, whenever you make a
donation—and have a nice day!

The weekend at the Mint
will start out with Tatiana
& Friends in "A Night on
the Town," with performances by
Inga the Incredible, Jazzy Eddie
Jeanine, Madcap Mz P, Perky

Phoebe Planters, and a host of
other talented and delightful
guests. The show will start at
9 p.m. and will also be a fund-
raiser for the AIDS Emergency
Fund.

The aforementioned show will
be on Saturday, and on Sunday
the Mint will present their annual
Xmas in July party from noon 'til
2 a.m., with the beneficiary being
Resources. This soiree will be
hosted by Ms. Santa Claus, Erica,
and Santa Claus will be Tony, aka
Bertha Butts. They will be ac-
cepting packaged and canned
goods for this event, and Chuck
Demmon is sure to have some
surprises planned for all of the
partygoers.

The Tavern Guild will hold its
next meeting this Tuesday at the
New Belle, and that will also be
the day they vote for new officers.
The meeting will start at 1 p.m.,
and if you are a member, please
attend and vote.

Wednesday evening will be
another "Boys' Night Out" at
Kimo's from 7:30 'til 10 p.m. The
entertainment will be Ain't No
Monkey Business & Eric. The
hosts for this event will be Stock-
ton's Emperor Mark (good name
for an emperor), Alameda's
Emperor Carlos, and our own
adorable Emperor Steve. This
will also be a fundraiser for
Resources.

Whew, that's over! And to
think Herb Caen has been doing
this for 50 years. Well, I'm off to
Hayward for assorted delights at
the Spoiled Brat. I think I'll pack
an overnight kit.

Gender Dysforia?

The American Transsexual
Education Center announces
its relocation to Los Angeles.

ATEC is a nonprofit organi-
zation providing information
and referral services to all
those concerned or involved
with gender dysforia.

For more information, con-
tact ATEC at (213) 469-7559 or
(213) 467-5640. You may also
write to ATC at 1626 N. Wil-
cox, Suite 584, Hollywood, CA
90028.

Jerker

(Continued from page 26)

happened to gay people and other people affected by the AIDS crisis, great for the play. But it has this wrenchingly sentimental ending, where he makes the audience cry because of the disease. Meanwhile, the subtext of so much of that play is so damn anti-sexual that I determined that I would write a play that was as pro-sexual as possible and use the same cheap trick of making the audience cry!"

Chesley is quick to point out that neither *Jerker* nor *Night Sweat* are AIDS plays *per se*. The disease is never mentioned in either drama, and the audience is given a text that can lend itself to several interpretations as to the fate of its characters. Chesley is, in fact, rather proud that his plays lend themselves readily to nontraditional casting. In *Jerker*, the character of J.R., the man who initiates the sex fantasy calls with Bert, a man who he has met in the Badlands, seems at first to be the boy to Bert's "Daddy."

But Chesley warns his audiences not to jump to such easy conclusions. "Actually, J.R. may be the older of the two. J.R. was in Vietnam, which means he can't be too young. Bert can be played by an actor of almost any age, although in the productions so far he usually has been the younger one, so that there's an irony in the fact that he's playing the older brother over the telephone."

Chesley explains that there is a great deal of other information that is not spelled out about the characters, quite deliberately. "It's implied that J.R. is paraplegic. But the fact is that the part of J.R. could and should be played by any number of guys. It would bring out different meanings in the play if J.R. was an Asian or black or fat actor. The real point of the play is that Bert is turned on to something that is real in J.R. which he could not relate to if he saw his partner in the flesh. But what he is relating to through fantasy is real."

Jerker has had quite a controversial life outside the theater. In August 1986, portions of the play were broadcast over the Los Angeles area gay/lesbian radio program IMRU. (I Am, Are You?) The broadcast kicked off a fiery debate in the broadcast industry after a formal protest was lodged with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) by an L.A.-area fundamentalist minister.

The *Jerker* case faded from the news, leaving a considerable chilling effect on the free expression of gay sexuality, especially at the five stations operated by the nonprofit Pacifica Foundation (KPFA in Berkeley), home to at least seven of the nation's gay/lesbian radio shows. Chesley is disturbed at what he sees as a continuing threat to the freedom of sexual speech.

"That really is serious," he said. "It is potentially lethal! We've got to remember that radio is a lifeline for those who are in desperate need for information, whether they're in the closet or whether they're a pregnant teenager in a fundamentalist family. Radio is a way that information can get to you privately, which is precisely what gets our good American family people very upset: the thought of their 15-year-old son hearing that it's all right to be gay or hearing about the facts of sex which are meant to be kept secret. We've got to remember this that prudery kills, prudery is lethal!"

Chesley shies away from few difficult subjects, including that of his own health. "Well, I have AIDS. It makes a difference," he said. "I'm in fairly good shape, that's all. I have some KS lesions, and I find myself playing a very different role in my own life. There are revelations awaiting us who are going to get AIDS. It is different. There's a great deal to be said about it; perhaps in the next play I start saying some of it."

In the course of the 20 phone calls that make up *Jerker*, bits of information start to creep into the fantasy relationship between J.R. and Bert. The erotic intensity fades as the play enters a deeper, darker phase. Chesley believes that getting to know someone can spoil the hot sex possible in an anonymous relationship. "By the seventh phone call, they're having a little teasing chat, and that's when the first nonsimultaneous orgasm happens: J.R. comes before Bert. The play sort of wallows you with hot phone sex, and then it shifts gears as the characters shift gears. I would only caution against moralistic constructs." ●

Jerker
Theatre Rhinoceros
2926 16th St., S.F.
Thursday-Sunday, July 15-Aug. 7
Tickets: \$10-\$12; call 861-5079

Karr

(Continued from page 27)

gifts in his flurry, his benevolence, his strong assurance in our sexuality and art. There were the gifts of his own compositions and the gifts of his unceasing encouragement of others. He gave us much to see. And he showed many of us *how* to see, with his far-reaching, all-encompassing, everything-to-be-dared vision. And all of it gay and unafraid of sex—how many knew that the winged tattoo in the web between his thumb and forefinger was a sign of his devotion to masturbation, to releasing that energy which cleanses and creates?

Performer Tommy Pace has AIDS, and special tribute was paid to him with a benefit last weekend at Project Artaud which raised nearly \$4,000 to help with his expenses. It was a beautifully produced evening. It even started on time—Miss Fish and company must have begun applying their facades shortly after St. Patrick's day!

As usual, the queens stole the show. Silvana Nova's hauteur has never been haughtier, and she was touchingly comic in a scene Tommy once wrote about a queen

and a dyke who meet in a ladies' john. Doris Fish, Miss X, and Tippi have never looked more glamorous, and actually sang their mock striptease song, "Take Back Your Mink." And there was Lulu, who is *suis generis* (and no, that does not translate to "of any gender," although it might as well). The girl was so alluring in high swept hairdo and evening gown, vibrating wildly with the (reconstituted) Four Beauties. (Actually, I counted five, but what's one more or less where beauty is concerned?)

Then Rodney Price stole the show. With his own health badly troubled, Rodney was gaunt—but still couldn't escape the handsomely boyish quality that has always been so endearing. Conserving his energy, he performed from his wheelchair a daringly satirical song, "I've Got Less Time Than You,"—and then, waving jauntily at Tommy, who was hiding way up in the rafters of the theater, Rodney revealed his tap shoes and did a tap routine while seated in his wheelchair! What a gallant and lovely man; Rodney's cleats are the calls of our courage and will click forever for me, as they did for Tommy.

But despite this evening-long procession of show stealers (I haven't even mentioned Marga

Gomez and Jan Mauro and Ann Block), it was Tommy Pace who stole the show without even appearing. His presence was everywhere—in a loving slide show of Tommy's career that ended the evening and especially in the collection of videos which were screened at intervals. There was Tommy with the Gay Men's Theatre Collective in *Crimes Against Nature* and in several hysterical 181 Eddy Club outings, as a stoned Billie Holiday and a loony Imelda Marcos, as well as indelible in David Weisman's "Beauties Without a Cause" and the Angels of Light's "Holy Cow."

Tommy has given of his talent and, through his public sharing of what a gay identity can be, has led many of us to happier and perhaps previously impossible places. I recalled one of his lesser-known and, I think, finest performances, as Isabella in Shakespeare's *Measure For Measure*. Not a role you'd expect Tommy in, but he was so touching, the picture of simplicity, begging mercy for his brother. They say the quality of mercy is not strained, but if you ask me, it's been sorely overtaxed recently. Tommy's evening brought some hope back to all of us with its just tribute to this wonderful man, and our deepest wishes for his good health. ●



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B.A.R. PEOPLE & PERSONALS

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Gay City/Gay Paper Bay Area Reporter

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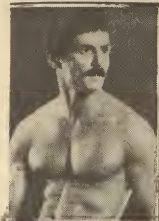
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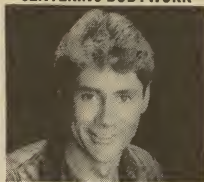
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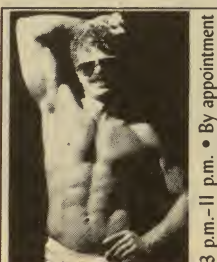
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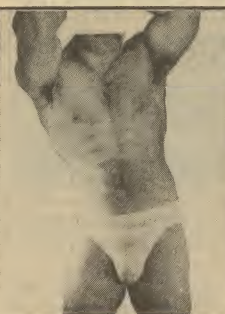
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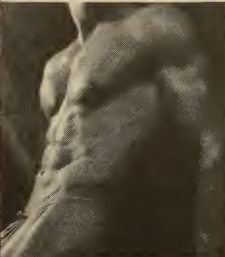
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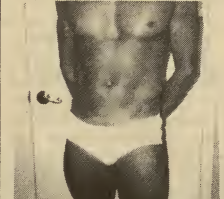
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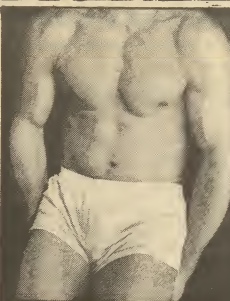
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BAY AREA REPORTER SPORTS & FITNESS

Goose Eggs!

Spikes Take Soccer Title With Stingy Defense



by Rick Thoman

SEATTLE—The domination of San Francisco in gay soccer circles continued over the July 4 holiday weekend. The San Francisco Spikes won the first annual Waddell Cup with a 6-0 victory over New York. The Spikes reached the championship game by blanking New York, 1-0; Los Angeles, 2-0; Denver, 7-0; and host Seattle, 5-0.

The victory in the Great Northwest added to the historical laurels of S.F. gay soccer. San Francisco won soccer championships in Gay Games I and II, and then followed those wins with a title in the first annual National Gay Soccer Tournament in Denver last year.

The win at the Seattle tournament brought the San Francisco team the newly minted Tom Waddell Cup, to be awarded each year to the winner of the National Gay Soccer Tournament. And if the S.F. Spikes continue their heads-up play and hard-driving style on the field, the Waddell Cup may remain in San Francisco for many years to come.

Just how good are the Spikes? Five shutouts say much about the team's defense.

They must have a great goalie,

right? As goalie Steve Muchmore put it, "I wish I could take all the credit, but actually the other teams didn't get that far down the field too often. They were mainly trying to defend themselves against our offensive line."

The Spikes, coached by Libby Rappolt, rolled out to a sluggish start in their first game against Los Angeles. The only goal of the game came in the second half of play, giving S.F. a 1-0 victory.

The team couldn't generate much energy for the second game either, a see-saw battle with Los Angeles. However, with four minutes left to play, S.F.'s Milt Hagler lined a quick shot past the L.A. goalie to put S.F. on top, 1-0. Hagler's goal was followed quickly by a short from Brad Shipley, and San Francisco retired the first day with two shut-out victories.

According to Muchmore, the L.A. game was the turning point of the tournament for the team. "We were getting some outstanding defensive play from David Jessup throughout the L.A. game, and after the two successive goals we finally calmed down and took control," he explained.

The next day the Spikes crush-

ed their competition, blasting Denver, 7-0, and defeating host team Seattle, 5-0. Both Denver and Seattle had played against the Spikes in last year's Gay National Tournament, but they were clearly intimidated by the cool professionalism of the S.F. players. Both teams drew into defensive formations and spent very little time trying to penetrate San Francisco's backfield in hopes of scoring a goal.

The Spikes returned to the field the next day to play New York for the championship. New York pressed hard at the start of the game, but when San Francisco's Arturo Ruiz made a dazzling shot to score the first goal of the game, New York suddenly fell apart and retreated to a defensive posture. With five minutes left in the first half, S.F.'s Rano Guerfi scored his first goal of the game, and he came back later to humiliate New York, scoring twice more. The three goals made Guerfi the top scorer of the tournament, with a total of five. San Francisco went on to win the game and the tournament by a score of 6-0.

Members of the Spikes include Captain Carlo Togni, Guerfi, Muchmore, Ruiz, Jessup, Hagler, Shipley, as well as Scott Noble, Rabbi Alameddine, Jose Dominguez, Phil Howard, Josh Persky, Steve Damron, Don Chandler, David Spitzer, and Mark Coval.

And just to prove they can play well regardless of the competition, the S.F. Spikes are in their second season of "straight" league play in Marin County. The team started out in the lowest division ("D") last year, which they promptly won. This year they moved up to the tougher "C" division, and they are currently 3-2.

The Spikes are sponsored by the Galleon and hold practice sessions every Monday and Wednesday evening at the West Sunset soccer field. Their games are on Saturdays at McGinnis Park in San Rafael. For more information about the team, contact Carlo Togni at 821-4248. ●



This Week's Schedules

SOFTBALL

(All games this week at Jackson Field, 17th Street and Arkansas.)

Sunday, July 17:

- 9:30 a.m. The Pendulum v. Pilsner Inn (Field 1)
Phone Booth v. Uncle Bert's Place (Field 2)
- 11:00 a.m. The Mint v. the Galleon (Field 1)
Rawhide Men v. Cassidy's (Field 2)
- 12:30 p.m. Phone Booth v. S.F. Eagle (Field 1)
The Bear v. Cafe Sn Marcos (Field 2)
- 2:00 p.m. Rawhide Women v. Amelia's (Field 1)
Rainbow 'Roos v. Superstar Video (Field 2)
- 3:30 p.m. Superstar Video v. Rawhide Women (Field 1)

TRACK AND FIELD

Saturday, July 16:

- 10:00 a.m. TAC Western Regional Championships at Cal State Northridge



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Amelia's Outhits Beaches; Phone Booth Tops Division

by Hal Herkenhoff

The long-awaited second game between defending Gay Softball League women's champ Superstar Video and Amelia's, the 1987 runnerups, proved well worth the wait. The two teams battled down to a few differences and a few timely hits, and Amelia's won its second straight 1988 game from Superstar, 4-1, thanks to great hitting from Kerry McGillicutty and well-played team defense.

The Beaches held on to a 1-0 lead for the first four innings, but left numerous runners on base due to Amelia's tight defense. Then, in the fifth, Amelia's broke loose with a triple from McGillicutty and a homer from Ellen Brin to stake Amelia's pitcher Sandy Chilarducci all the runs she would need to lead her team to a season sweep of the Beaches and a probable top seed for the GSL women's division tournament. That's the tournament that will send the San Francisco champion to the Gay World Series in Dallas in a couple of months.

Amelia's veteran Claire Monfort admitted, "This was a psychological win for us, we

know. But it will help us get ready to have to win two out of three again in the women's finals of the tournament."

In an important Division 1 contest, the Pilsner Inn edged Uncle Bert's Place, 6-5, for a measure of pride and an edge in the placings that will determine the playoff opponents in the men's division. The Penguins gave up a 4-0 lead in the first inning, then battled back, helped by John Peternell's home run and Jack LeMasters' triples, to pull up, 4-4, in the second. The final five innings were all defense, and the Pilsner managed to sneak by for their second win over Bert's this year.

The Rainbow Roos pulled off another upset, their third this year over a playoff team, this time topping Division 2 leader Cafe Sn Marcos, 21-18. In a wild game, the Roos led after two innings by 11-9 despite three consecutive home runs by the Cafe hitters, who were to find their offensive skills insufficient to overcome their defensive mistakes. The resourceful Roos managed 21 runs on just 11 hits, but



An Amelia's team member at the plate.

(Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlène)

were aided by 11 walked batters and nine Cafe errors to take the lead for good in the second.

The Cafe pounded out 21 hits, including four long home runs, but seemed to lose their grip out on the field. That was helped by their second baseman, who rattled his own teammates more than the Roos with his tantrums and hysterics and kept the Cafe from catching up. Better concentration from the Roos on their sportsmanship eventually allowed them to watch their opponent self-destruct, and the game belonged to the deserving Roos.

Division 1 took two games from the less experienced Division 3 when the Galleon and Kokpit prevailed over the Bear and the Rawhide Men, respectively.

The Phone Booth moved into first place in Division 3 for the first time this year with a solid 7-1 victory over Cassidy's. Many exciting games have yet to be played in Division 3, so this race has yet to be decided.

July 4 tournaments highlighted last weekend. San Francisco's teams competed in Atlanta, Boston, Toronto, and Long Beach gay tournaments. The Endup finish-

ed fourth out of 14 teams in Boston by winning three of five games. Cafe Sn Marcos won two of five in Atlanta's tough tournament, which featured seven 1987 Gay World Series teams, while Uncle Bert's won one of three in the recreational division of Boston's tournament. Only the Kokpit came home without a win. They lost their first two in Long Beach.

The GSL women will hold a fundraiser at Olive Oil's at Pier 50 on Saturday, July 16, with entertainment and dancing starting at 7 p.m. There will be various performers for a \$5 donation. All are welcome.

The APEX Awards, scheduled for January 1989, will host Deena Jones on Tuesday, July 19, at the

Galleon's Cabaret Room for two shows at 8 and 9:30 p.m. which will also benefit the Godfather Service Fund. Tickets are \$8 at the door.

Next week's games highlight Division 1 matchups with contests between the league-leading Pendulum vs. Pilsner Inn at 9:30 a.m. and the Kokpit vs. Endup at 3:30 p.m. Both of these games are rematches from earlier games this year and should prove to be just as exciting as the first game.

All games are at Jackson Field at 17th Street and Arkansas.

STANDINGS

Division 1

	W	L
Pendulum	12	1
Endup	9	3
Kokpit	8	4
Pilsner Inn	7	4
Uncle Bert's	8	5
Galleon	5	8

Division 2

	W	L
Cafe Sn Marcos	9	4
S.F. Eagle	8	5
Rainbow Roos	7	6
Amelia's	7	6
The Mint	6	6
Superstar Video	5	8

Division 3

	W	L
Phone Booth	5	7
Cassidy's	5	8
Rawhide Men	4	8
The Bear	2	11
Rawhide Women	1	12

RESULTS

The Galleon 25-The Bear 3
S.F. Eagle over Rawhide Women (forfeit)
Amelia's 4-Superstar Video 1
Pilsner Inn 6-Uncle Bert's 5
Rainbow Roos 21-Cafe Sn Marcos 18
Kokpit 33-Rawhide Men 2
Pendulum over Rawhide Women (forfeit)
Phone Booth 7-Cassidy's 1
Endup-Mint postponed until July 30

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TENNIS

Playoff Teams Decided

by Les Balmain

Another exciting regular season of team tennis round-robin play concluded last weekend for the Gay Tennis Federation. Leticia's kept an unblemished match record by squeaking by the Silver Fox, 39-38, for their seventh straight victory of the season. With their won/lost games record of 335/243, they maintained their first place in the standings, leading the second-place Galleon Bar & Restaurant team by 24 games.

Due to an injury to their B-2 player Bill Fisher, Leticia's played with one man short. However, Brett Buckius, their C-1 player, moved up and took over the B-2 position very impressively, with upset wins in both his singles and doubles matches. He defeated Robert Sissenstein, 6-4, then teamed with Rob McCann, Leticia's B-1 player, and won the doubles, 6-3, over Rob Sissenstein and Les Balmain. The loss was a big disappointment to the Silver Fox team, dropping them from third place to fifth place and out of the playoffs. Had they won just two more games in the match, they would have made the playoffs.

Community Rentals moved up from fifth place to fourth place, thus making the playoffs by de-

(Continued on next page)



The "C" doubles team for Schmidt & Schmidt.

(Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlène)



A member of the White Swallow team. (Photo: S. Savage)

Tennis

(Continued from previous page)

feating the Galleon, 46-33. Community Rentals are last year's champions and will now have another shot at the title. Even with their loss by 13 games, the Galleon held on to a strong second place.

The White Swallow defeated Hartford Properties, 50-37, which moved them from fourth to third place, solidifying their play-off spot.

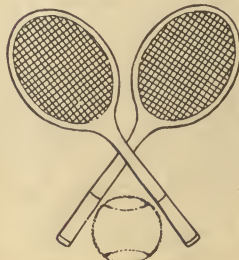
Roto Rooter downed Schmidt & Schmidt Insurance, 43-32, and remained in sixth place. Had Roto Rooter won just six more games, they would have made the playoffs.

This has been one of the most rip-roaring races for the playoffs the GTF has ever had. And the middle four teams' photo-finish for the third and fourth playoff spots, separated by only six games, was a breathtaking climax. Congratulations go to all the team tennis players and to Ken Najour, chairman, for a great season.

Now to the championship playoffs for the trophies. The No. 1 team, Leticia's, will meet the No. 4 team, Community Rentals; and the No. 2 team, the Galleon, will meet the No. 3 team, the White Swallow. The winners will play for the championship, and the losers will play for third and fourth places. These finals will take place at San Francisco City College tennis courts Sunday, July 14, starting at 9 a.m. Fans are encouraged to pack a picnic basket and come out and cheer their favorites.

Round 7 team standings as of July 10 are:

	W	L
1. Leticia's	335	243
2. Galleon	306	262
3. White Swallow	300	295
4. Community Rentals	298	295
5. Silver Fox	290	289
6. Roto Rooter	294	296
7. Hartford Properties	253	312
8. Schmidt & Schmidt	228	313



POOL

Gala Sendoff for S.F.'s Pool Champions

by Lauren Ward

The San Francisco Pool Association celebrated its 20th season with an awards party held upstairs July 12 at Amelia's. All of this season's winners were feted, and a bon voyage was wished to the representatives to West Coast Challenge XVII, scheduled for July 15-17 at Troopers' Hall in Los Angeles.

The season's first winner was decided last Feb. 13 when Gene Miller bested Lauren Ward at the Captain's Tournament. Robby Nath and T.J. Springer finished third and fourth.

All 16 of the finalists in the 8-Ball Championship got cash awards, thanks to the tournament's sponsors, Miller Lite and Golden Brands. In addition, the top four, E.Z., Gene Miller, Rick Mariani, and Antonio Rios, received trophies.

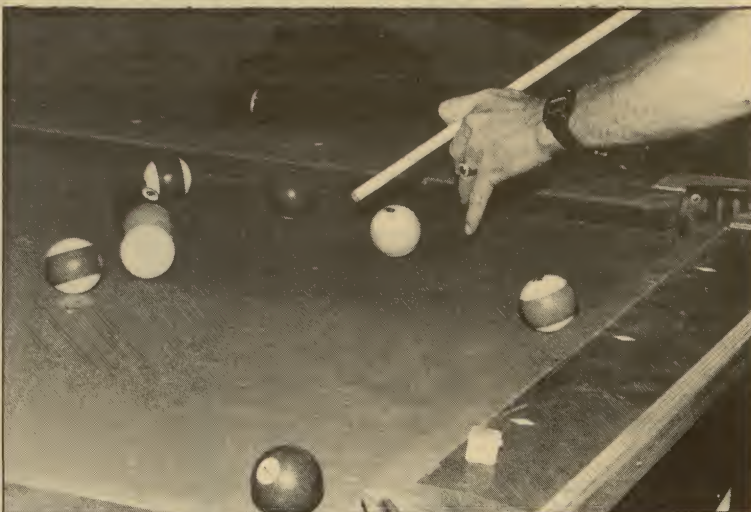
The first players to claim berths for WCC XVII did so at the women's WCC qualifier last May. Lisa Duncan was followed by Lauren Ward, Toni Macante, and Fran Herman.

The Most Valuable Player Tournament featured one player from each team and was won for the fourth time by Lauren Ward. Royal Senn, Larry Fyvie, and Mike Macri rounded out the top four.

The All Star Tournament featured the 16 highest-rated players to check in for the chance to compete in the Open Individuals' Tournament at WCC. E.Z. won it for the fourth time and his second in a row, overcoming Lauren Ward in the sudden-death tiebreaker. Ron Barulich was third, and Kevin Roberts fourth.

The Rising Star featured 16 players who fell short of qualifying for the All Star and was won for the third time by Bill von Prillwitz. Karen Brandman, John Schou, and Toni Macante comprised the remaining top four.

The ultimate goal for players within our league is to play on the



(Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene)

city champion team and go on to compete with the top guns from the other three cities which comprise WCC. These are the champions decided by thousands of games played among more than 600 competitors, and the level of competition is resultingly amazing.

The Ducks, sponsored by the DeLuxe (the best place to play pool in the Haight), won an unprecedented fourth city championship out of the last six seasons. Having never finished lower than third in their seven seasons of play, they owe their successful chemistry to the family-like emotional bonds they foster among teammates and their determination that, above all, playing the game should be fun.

Three founding members of the team remain from that first season together, Lisa Duncan, Lauren Ward, and E.Z., who's serving as this season's captain, a title they rotate. Ron Barulich is a veteran of all their championship seasons and has repeatedly come up with that crucial, must-

win game, earning him the nickname "Iceman." Tim Chitwood was invited aboard a couple of seasons ago when Rick Moore moved away. Tim was recently elected league president in a write-in campaign, the first of its kind.

The newest Duck is Hugh Fountain. He responded to his new teammates with his best season ever and is thrilled to be participating in his first WCC. The Ducks roster will never be complete without the inclusion of their fallen brother, Barry Middleton. His last words to me were, "Win it for me."

The Ducks were the last S.F. team to win the WCC championship, a feat they managed at WCC XIV in Reno. Overall, S.F. has won nine of the contests, San Diego four, and L.A. three. In the Open Individuals' Tournament, S.F. has four champions, San Diego seven, and L.A. five. Long Beach, the newest WCC participant, has yet to score in either category, but each season nudges a bit closer.

The Women's Individuals' Tournament is an official WCC event for the first time this season. Based partially on a written proposal by myself and partially on the initiative of the Long Beach Pool League, which conducted a pilot event last season, the contest was formally included this year. A spirited crowd of supporters is expected for this, as well as the other WCC events.

In addition to Lisa Duncan, Toni Macante, and Fran Herman, Marquita Booth will be substituting for Lauren Ward, who will instead compete in the open contest. Regulations limit participation to the team plus one individuals' competition, and Lauren qualified as a triple threat.

The SFPA board of directors would like to thank all the players and sponsors who helped make this season possible. The Ducks heap praise on Richard Zimmer and the staff at DeLuxe for their support of a championship season.

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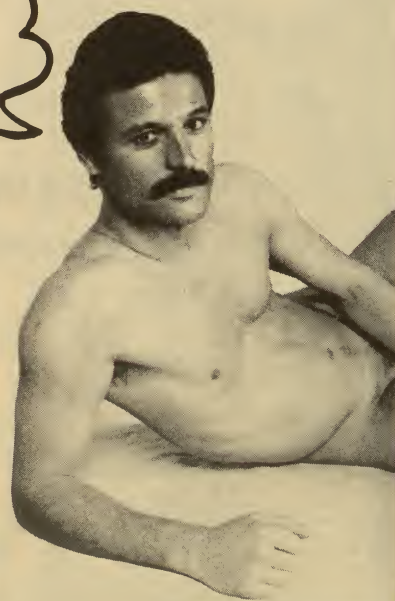
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Dandy Dan Finished on Top in La-La Land

by Richard McPherson

Dan Burley put together the best scoring achievement of his bowling career to win first place in the singles division of the Studio City LAMDA's Tournament held in Los Angeles the weekend of July 2 and 3.

Burley, a 169 average bowler, shot a .254 game and a 637 scratch series, totaling 709 with handicap to beat out 208 other competitors and earn \$200 in first-place prize money in this International Gay Bowling Organization (IGBO)-sponsored tournament.

Burley, a league bowler in both the Tavern Guild League at Park

Bowl and the Community League at Japantown Bowl, continued his striking spree in the doubles competition with partner Hunter Bauman, shooting a 255/609 to aid them in a tenth-place win in that division. These back-to-back 600s represent the third and fourth 600s in Dan's bowling career, the 637 being his all-time high. Burley picked the right moment to give it his best.

Certainly the TGL's greatest scoring achievement at Park Bowl from June 20 to 30 was a 265 game shot by Chuck Webster, a 152 average in the Monday TGL. Chuck put together a long



Dan Burley

(Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene)

string of strikes to shoot a whopping 113 pins over his average for that one game. This achievement will earn him a 100-pins-over-average award from the ABC (American Bowling Congress). Webster finished the night with a 620 series to win himself a second award for 150-plus pins over average for a three-game series.

Another award-winning 100-pins-over-average score was shot by Lewis Willoughby, a 133 average, who shot a 234 game. Congratulations, Chuck and Lewis. Those games must represent the thrill of a lifetime.

Kevin Schwab, bowling for the Ram's Head Bar, shot the high series for the TGL with a 688 series in the Wednesday league on June 29. Schwab, a 206 average, shot a consistent near-triplicate series, composed of 226, 231, 231, to boost his league average to 209. We're talking major league here!

Randy Peterson (182 average) continued his hot streak by shooting 600 two weeks running, with 209, 213, 224/646, followed by a 652 on games of 201, 232, 219.

Other 600s at Park Bowl, June 20 to 30: Jeff Hettmansperger (199), 226/630 (June 20) and 216/604 (June 27); David Arnold (202), 246/629; Ronald McKay (173), 245/628; John Farrell (175), 223/606; J.C. Halstead (188), 211/604; R. McPherson (210), 223/601.

Special congrats to Rob Levi, 159 average, 226, 220/621; Vince DiColla (158 average) on a 233/604; and Kevin Keefer (162 average), 234/625 on their major over-average achievements.

B.J. Irwin, a 156 average, caused quite a commotion on the lanes in the Monday TG Trios on June 20 when she started her first game out with seven strikes in a row. Irwin, a lefty, was beside herself by the time she got up to throw her eighth ball, which hit

light on the headpin, stopping her string. She was still delighted with her 242 game. B.J., by the way, is the first woman ever to be elected league president in the predominantly male TGL.

Rodger Asai's 245 game on June 22 in the Wednesday TGL boggled his mind about the order of the universe. On this night, after shooting his second high lifetime game, he won the 50/50 raffle. Last year, after shooting a 267 lifetime high in the same league, he also won the 50/50 raffle, his only two times ever.

Asai, a nut on statistics, spent three hours after bowling that night tracing one numerical coincidence after another. For example, he said, his 245 game shot that night was exactly 245 games since his 267. And the number of pins over his average that game (157 average) equaled the amount of money he won in the 50/50 raffle plus his lane number (or something like that). And on and on. The chances of all this coming together as it did, he said, are about 1 in 680 million. Kinda makes ya tingle, doesn't it?

Other bowlers shooting 215-plus games in the TGL: Lew Cordaro (159), 243 (!); Angelo Maggio (179), 231; Buddy Hunt (153), 228; Patrick (Mr. Rawhide II) London (157), 227; Ron McKay (172), 225; Don Gambell (175), 224; Rob Levi (163), 224; Vince Di Colla (171), 223; Tim Hagerman (162), 222; Roy Thorson (180), 220; Craig Clevenger (157), 220; Dave Lilly (196), 220; John Farrell (173), 219; Tom Neidert (167), 218; Ljubo Sliskovic (169), 218; Ray Padua (155), 218; Kevin Keefer (167), 216.

Honorable mention (160 average and under): Larry Grant (140), 215; Bill Gall (160), 213; Rene Richard (155) 212, 203; Michael Bulawit (161), 204; Robert Bofill (142), 204; Derek Ow (153), 203; Frank Romeo (152), 203

(kiss, kiss); Lew Watson (154), 200; Chuck Caldwell (139), 200. And of course I would be remiss if I did not congratulate Tom Sipple on increasing his average 10 pins! (Now tell me, what are you going to do with that finger?)

Chuck Boehm (143 average) was the major over-average achiever in the Wednesday Community League at Japantown Bowl. Bowling for the Tidy Bowls on June 22, Boehm shot an even 100 pins over his average when he shot a 243 game. He, too, will get that ABC award. In the Tuesday Community League on June 21, Martin McDonald (142 average) put together a 220 and 200 in one evening, while on another pair that same night, Stewart Holland (135 average) shot a 206, while teammate Chuck Content (129) shot a 201.

Other 210-plus games at JTown June 19 to July 5: David Arnold (198), 246; Jim Barnes (175), 231; Harry Strait (166), 218; Brad Nemeth (151), 216; Dererk Ow (158), 216 and 213; Chuck Adkins (166), 211, 202.

Honorable mention: Bob Dos Santos (143), 209; Larry Stiffler (141), 206; Russell Willis (149), 205; Chris Boyd (129), 205; Donald Choy Jr. (152), 202; Mike Ermerly (137), 200.

The above JTown scores represent Tuesday Community June 21 to July 5, Wednesday Community June 22 to 29, and Sunday Reno June 19.

So now we have a "No Tap" League on Thursdays at JTown (that is, a nine-count on the first ball also counts as a strike). I'll have to set up some new guidelines on how to report the scores for this one. How about 700-plus series for the men, 600-plus for women, 275-plus games for men, 250-plus for women. That means we have David Williams (171 average), 239, 287/733; Lew Gilmore (165 average), 243/712; and Richard Harry (163), 264/705. (Maybe I'll lower the guidelines next time.) The above scores represent June 16 to 30.

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White

(Continued from page 29)

Stierle and Tina LeBlanc are exemplary.

The modern imports were equally effective. Paul Taylor's *Arden Court* bestows upon the Joffrey men their rightful dignity (though Arpino can have them grind their hips forever in *Light Rain*, and I'll not complain). Laura Dean's *Force Field* democratizes the dancers in a way that seems to dignify them all. Canadian James Kudelka's new *Concerto Grosso* seemed more repetitive and less accomplished than any of his other works, and I suspect it may be nearly as hard on the dancers' bodies as Arpino's ballets.

The senior company members, Beatriz Rodriguez, Philip Jerry, Jerel Hilding, Charlene Gehm, Carole Valleskey, Mark Goldweber, and Carl Corry, all bear the standard of versatility—Robert Joffrey's constant re-

quirement—that no other ballet company has ever quite matched. To develop in the younger dancers the same flexibility is the incumbent challenge for the artistic staff.

Nestled among the Joffrey's ranks are some devastating personalities who will surely come to light in future seasons. Julie Janus, incomparably elegant with an indispensable streak of brass, should be featured far more prominently than she is. I greatly admired Jill Davidson as Hermia in *The Dream* and Victoria Pasquale in a solo variation from *Reflections*. Patrick Corbin's mercurial brilliance places him firmly on the brink of greatness. And it was good to see how much strength in performance Douglas Martin has acquired since the company's last visit. Martin's handsome face and beautifully proportioned body would look good in any company, but this season he looked like a real Joffrey dancer, cutting new facets with every appearance he made.

Heymont

(Continued from page 30)

created for L'Opera de Nice) failed to grab me, it was mostly because of Mauro Pagano's sets—which ranged between cavernous and treacherous—and John De Main's mechanical conducting. Although Jean-Claude Auvray's stage direction did not always hit the mark (particularly during the crucial Cours-la-Reine scene), Duane Schuler's exquisite lighting, most particularly in the Act II bedroom scene, helped to frame some of the opera's more dramatic moments with a rare beauty.

My travel schedule prevented me from catching the Houston Grand Opera's first cast of principals (Francisco Araiza and Stephanie Friede). However, I would express no regrets at all about the performers I heard in HGO's *Manon*. Fresh from her triumphant characterization of Pat Nixon in John Adams' *Nixon*

in *China*, soprano Carolann Page delivered a *Manon* of surprising dramatic intensity. Her innocence was palpable; her death genuinely saddening.

Francois Loup's Comte des Grieux brought a surprisingly tender aspect to a character who is usually portrayed as an angry stick-in-the-mud, while comprimario tenor Joseph Frank haughtily fussed about the stage as the rejected and ridiculed Guillot. Although aggressively soldier-like in a very masculine way, Robert Orth's Lescart revealed a surprisingly sympathetic side of this often-neglected character.

The most astonishing contribution to the evening came from tenor Mark Thomsen, a graduate of the Houston Opera Studio who was singing his first des Grieux. Up until now, Thomsen has been specializing in Mozart roles, but—unless I'm completely off my rocker—I'm willing to bet that as soon as this boy gets Werther, Faust, and Romeo under his belt, he will be able to develop a major

career as a lyric tenor.

I'm dead serious, too. It's an extremely rare privilege to discover a good-looking young tenor who stands over six feet tall (even when down on his knees, Thomsen can frequently look his soprano partner in the eye) and can sing the pants off of a composer's music. To hear Thomsen deliver des Grieux' Act II "Reve" aria, as well as Act III's "Ah, fuyez, douce image!" in a lyric voice and romantic style that would make Alfredo Kraus blush with pride, is to sit bolt-upright in one's chair and pay careful attention to what's happening onstage.

This young American artist is destined to become a major force in the French repertoire. So pay close attention to Mark Thomsen's name. You're bound to start hearing it more often.

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TESTING HIV POSITIVE COULD SAVE YOUR LIFE.

Having your worst fears confirmed may not sound like good news but maybe it really is. Why? Because many physicians who have worked with the AIDS virus now believe that early detection and treatment to prevent the deterioration of the immune system (T-4 Helper Cells) is the best course of action to slow or stop the progression to AIDS or ARC.

Research indicates that **left untreated**, over 70% of those infected with the HIV virus will eventually develop AIDS or ARC.

The sooner you know if you are HIV Positive the sooner you can start taking positive action that could save your life.

GET TESTED

Testing is now widely available. The San Francisco Department of Public Health has several neighborhood sites that offer **confidential, free, anonymous**, testing and counseling. For information and appointment schedules telephone 415-621-4858.

If your test shows that you are not infected be sure to get retested periodically. Sometimes the HIV antibody doesn't show up for three years after infection. It's important to keep checking so that if you do contract the HIV virus you can combat the infection in its early stages.

GET TREATED

If you do test positive there are many resources available to help you with the medical and the psychological impact of HIV infection. For example, the community group, Project Inform, offers a free hotline service which can help provide you with the information you need to plan a course of action. Call 558-9051 in S.F. or use the toll free lines 1-800-822-7422 (National) or 1-800-334-7422 in California.

Positive Action HealthCare, the nation's largest clinic dealing with HIV immune disorders, is one of the resources you should consider. The Positive Action HealthCare clinic is now serving hundreds of HIV Positive patients with a program of preventive medicine devoted to maintaining the health of their immune systems at a level that may be sufficient to ward off the onset of infections associated with AIDS and ARC.

Each patient's individualized program is developed with his Positive Action HealthCare physician based on the initial examination and is reevaluated on a regular basis.

Potential new therapies are closely monitored by Positive Action HealthCare and as they show evidence of effectiveness they will be added to the treatment depending upon each patient's needs.

The Positive Action HealthCare treatment is not a cure for AIDS. This treatment is intended primarily for patients who are HIV Positive and who have not yet developed serious symptoms of AIDS or ARC.

The Positive Action HealthCare medical group is headed by Alan S. Levin, M.D., assisted by a staff of scientists and physicians who are specialists in the treatment of problems of the immune system and have published numerous medical and scientific documents in this field. Dr. Levin has served as Adjunct Associate Professor of Immunology at the University of California, San Francisco Medical Center. In private practice in San Francisco since 1981, he established Positive Action HealthCare in 1987 to deal specifically with immune disorders related to the HIV virus.



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